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Alia Attends, Participates in 45th UN Session

Meets Turkish President Ozal

AU2809131790 Tirana ATA in English 1755 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tirana, September 27 (ATA)—Comrade Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania met with the president of the Republic of Turkey, Turgut Ozal, in New York on September 27.

Present were also the minister of foreign affairs of the PSR of Albania, Reis Malile, and the director of the International Relations Study Institute, Prof. Sofokli Lazri.

During the meeting, which passed in a cordial and friendly way, they discussed on the Albanian-Turkish relations, the situation in the Balkans and many actual international questions. They pointed out with pleasure that the relations between the two countries are developing and progressing in the spirit of traditional friendship and mutual respect.

Both heads of state unanimously reiterated that the expansion and frequent contacts between the two countries and at all levels has created a good atmosphere and proper conditions so that the Albanian-Turkish relations be enriched with new contents and serve the interests of not only the two countries but also of the peace and security in the Balkans and the world.

Both parties expressed their interest and desire for the progress of the process of the Balkan cooperation and the determination of the two countries to give it the possible support. Comrade Ramiz Alia invited President Ozal to visit Albania. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

Meets USSR's Shevardnadze

AU2809132090 Tirana ATA in English 1801 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tirana, September 27 (ATA)—A meeting between Comrade Ramiz Alia and the minister of foreign affairs of the Soviet Union, Eduard Shevardnadze was conducted at the seat of the president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the PSR of Albania in New York, on September 27.

During the meeting they spoke of the problems discussed in the current session of the UN General Assembly and of other international questions. Particularly, they discussed on the process of European cooperation and security, of which both countries are interested in.

Shevardnadze expressed the support of the Soviet Union for the complete participation of Albania in the Conference of the European Security and Cooperation.

Both parties voiced their satisfaction over the reestablishment of the diplomatic relations between Albania and the Soviet Union as well as the contacts initiated between the two countries on the promotion of the trade exchanges, economic, cultural cooperation, etc. They underlined that possibilities and the good will exist by both parties that the Albanian-Soviet relations assume development, extension and progress in all domains. They emphasized that such a thing will be not only to the interest of both countries but also of peace and security in Europe.

Attending the reception were also the minister of foreign affairs of the PSR of Albania, Reis Malile, the director of the International Relations Study Institute, Prof. Sofokli Lazri, the permanent representative of the USSR to the UNO [United Nations Organization], Vorontsov, and other Soviet functionaries.

Addresses General Assembly

AU3009135190 Tirana ATA in English 0800 GMT 29 Sep 90

["Speech by the President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Ramiz Alia, at the Session of the UN General Assembly"—ATA headline]

[Text] Tirana, September 28 (ATA)—Mr. President, it is a special pleasure for me to take the floor and speak before this session of the General Assembly, which also marks the 45th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. Likewise, it is an honour for me to warmly congratulate you upon your election to the high post of the president of the UN General Assembly, and wish you success in fulfilling this noble task.

We have come to this important meeting with the desire to contribute, within our possibilities, to the strengthening of the spirit of international cooperation, and the safeguarding of peace and security for all countries and peoples, big or small.

The year which has elapsed since the meeting of the previous General Assembly was replete with events which at times have been hopeful and at times threatening. However, they have resulted in the hope that at last, on the eve of the 21st century, reason not force is leading mankind to the solution of conflicts, to cooperation and not to confrontation, to understanding and not distrust.

It is very encouraging that, despite many difficulties, the concept is affirming itself that the security of the peoples and nations can be real and permanent only if a general security is established for all, just as political detente can have a solid basis only if the gap of unequal economic development among various countries is narrowed down, and if the poorer countries are assisted to embark on the road of modern development and the utilisation of the material and spiritual values of our time.

Certainly, various political, ideological, economic and social conflicts have not ceased seething, nor have the causes and factors which have given rise to them been eliminated. Nevertheless the important thing is that a general consensus is being created that international problems cannot be solved, nor can threats and dangers to peace and general security be eliminated through old concepts and methods.

We would like to consider the process of the easing of tension, if it is crystallized and further affirmed, with the active participation of the whole international community, not only a major achievement, but also a fundamental positive change in the building of new international relations.

In our view, what is happening in Europe and has taken the name of the process of security and cooperation in Europe is going along in that direction. Europe and the situation on this continent, and relations among its nations and peoples have been, at least up to this day, the source of the majority of positive or negative developments in the world.

The hotbeds of the major conflicts which have set the whole world afire had their source here, just as the origins of major political, ideological and cultural currents which have predominated over the centuries. From the great European wars, with all the suffering and superhuman sacrifices, the reflection of all European tragedy, illusions and disillusions, bold and noble initiatives have emerged so that the peoples and nations of Europe may live in peace and friendship among themselves.

Mine is a small country. The Albanian people, however, are among the most ancient inhabitants of the European continent. During the thousands of years of their existence, they have never attacked anybody, never provoked any aggressive war, never threatened or encroached upon the security of their neighbours. On the contrary, they have gone through fire and flames to preserve their existence and assist others. Gjergj Kastrioti Skenderbeg, our national hero of [the] 15th century, has been and remains the symbol of the brilliant fighter for the defence, not only of his own people, but also the first champion of European humanism and civilisation.

History has caressed the Albanian people, either in ancient or in modern times. But it has also taught them that for their freedom, independence, national sovereignty, originality and identity to be protected, they must boldly fight and oppose any attempt at their infringement, just as it has taught them to support and back up all international actions and initiatives that contribute to the strengthening of peace and general security.

We have proceeded from this necessity, this reality and this aim when we have opposed the policies of military blocs and divisions into spheres of influence, closed markets and neocolonialist policies, the armaments race and, in general, the policies of interference, arbitrariness and dictate.

We have been and continue to be for the democratization of international relations so that the voice of all countries is listened to and reckoned with. It is true that the great powers have special responsibilities for the maintenance and strengthening of peace. This, however, does not give them the right to dictate and impose peace according to their particular interests and political and ideological criteria. The norms of international relations, the position of states in their relations to one another, and the maintenance of peace must be the fruit of the thought, experience and contribution of the whole international community and the consensus of all the people.

In this context, we cannot fail to evaluate and consider as promising the changes that have taken place in the relations between the United States of America and the Soviet Union, the agreements they have concluded on disarmament and, in general, the way they consider mutual and general security. If detente between the two superpowers were to become global and extended to other fields, apart from that of armaments, this would be to the benefit of everybody.

Nevertheless, in the situation we find ourselves now, we cannot say that the policies and practices produced by the bloc concepts have been overcome. Worse still, the arrogance inspired by the policy of strength, which is reflected in the continuation of attempts at imposing various models, standards and schemes of political or social developments on others has not been overcome, either. Life has shown that pressure to make them compulsory for every country has led to conflicts from which the world is suffering to this day.

Mr. President, Albania has followed with keen attention and hailed without hesitation the democratic processes that are developing in Europe today. We consider the process of the CSCE, and our country has already joined in it and participated in a number of its activities, as being of particular importance, and this not only for Europe.

The Albanian people at all times and in all epochs shared the fate of the peoples of this continent. Precisely for this reason Albania feels itself an active participant in the processes that are unfolding in Europe. It looks forward with interest to the Paris summit which, proceeding from the Basic Helsinki Act and other CSCE documents, will decide its institutionalisation.

Albania, which would like to be a full participant in the Paris summit, will work in the spirit of the obligations deriving from it. All efforts, initiatives and ideas which aim at liquidating the division of Europe into blocs and spheres of influence or other forms inherited from the past while respecting the freedom, independence and sovereignty of every people and country, have the unreserved support of our country. Any proposal or step towards the easing of tension, the strengthening of peace through dialogue and understanding, in complete equity and mutual respect, and any decision or suggestion contributing to the defence of human rights and national and democratic freedoms will also have our full support.

The changes that are taking place at present in Central and Eastern Europe, the complex and still ill-defined situations that are being created in this wide region and the many and varied differences that are emerging, of which one does not know what forms they will assume and what consequences they will bring about, call for serious and wise reflection and actions on the part of all and everybody. Exaltation of democracy and human rights alone cannot be the magic key to the solution of the major, indeed we would say, dramatic problems of those countries. It is an evident fact that in some countries this exaltation is leading to anarchy, decline, and degradation of political, social and economic life, and conflicts and clashes with characteristics of a civil war.

Just as the whole world, so the European countries too stand at different levels of economic, social and other fields of development, which are the result of their different historical roads of development and which all together have also determined and conditioned the way of their political life.

It would be desirable for all the European countries to be at the same economic, political, cultural level, etc. However, in our opinion, this level cannot be attained and contradictions and conflicts cannot be eliminated only by giving advice, no matter how wise it may be.

Life has shown that without the development of countries in the economic field, without fruitful cooperation which creates possibilities of advance for others, too, and without establishing sincere and equal relations among states, which exclude prejudices and interference in internal affairs of any kind, no genuine security can be achieved, nor can democratic progressive and permanent community of the European peoples be created in that way.

Changes in Europe led also to the reunification of Germany, which eliminated one of the acute problems that have dominated the European political stage over the last 45 years. The right of the German nation to be reunited is a right that cannot be denied. The solution of such problems as that of the unification of Germany on the peaceful road is a good example also for coping with other problems of this kind which history has left for us to solve.

They also greatly contribute to the democratisation of international relations, the strengthening of peace and security, and the creation of conditions for sincere and constructive cooperation among the peoples.

Albania wishes sincerely that united Germany, which represents a great economic and political power, will constitute a factor of peace and stability in Europe and further afield and serve the creation of a better future for our old continent.

In the context of the process of European cooperation and security, regional cooperation is also assuming particular importance. Such is also the process of Balkan cooperation, to which Albania attaches special importance and exerts all her efforts to make the maximum contribution to its advancement and success. We think and are fully convinced that this process contributes not only to the strengthening of security and cooperation in this very sensitive region, but also directly serves the cause of peace and stability in Europe and the Mediterranean.

However, the Balkans has also its specific problems, which have caused its lagging behind in many respects and hamper its joining in the European currents and becoming an integrating factor of our continent.

The fundamental problems, or rather say, the source of all conflicts, squabbles and hatred among the Balkan states during this century, has been that of national minorities. It is high time, and the democratic processes taking place in Europe and the whole world call for it, that the Balkan countries tackle this problem with wisdom, realism and objectiveness.

However complicated and difficult it might appear, if they set themselves the aim of transforming the minorities from an apple of discord into a bridge for communication and cooperation, then the ways and means to settle this problem can be found.

As far as Albania is concerned, it has the good will and is ready to make its contribution to the advancement of Balkan cooperation on a democratic road so that it serves the vital interests of the peoples of this peninsula.

One of the more acute and more disquieting problems in the Balkans today is that of the Albanians in Yugoslavia, towards whom the government of Serbia is pursuing an open policy of genocide, something which has been affirmed also at many international forums and brought to the knowledge of world opinion.

In Kosovo and other regions in Yugoslavia where Albanians live, such crimes are being committed that would have been monstrous in the dark Middle Ages. The main point is not merely that the Albanians are not recognized only the standard human rights. It is already known by all that they are violated in the most barbaric way. The basic thing is that the Albanians are denied of their right to exist, their right to live. The illegal dissolution of the Assembly of Kosovo by Serbia, the occupation of the radio and television centre, the banning of the Albanian press, the dismissal of thousands of Albanians and their replacement by Serbia, are clear expressions of the intentions of the Serbian official authorities to solve the problem of the Albanians through violence and terror and not through dialogue.

The international community cannot and should not be indifferent towards this situation. The more so Europe which having drawn up the map of the Balkans at the outset of this century, has not only the moral but also the historical responsibility for the martyrdom of Albanians in Yugoslavia.

The Albanians in Yugoslavia, who represent the oldest autochthonous population among all the peoples of this state and who occupy the third place in population number among the nations which make up Yugoslavia, who for centuries have been living on their soil and on a compact territory, are demanding no more rights than the Serbs, the Slovenians, the Croatians or the Macedonians have. However, they will not accept anything less. They want to be equal subjects with all the other nations Yugoslavia is composed of.

The Albanians are demanding recognition of their right for self- determination. They want to live in Yugoslav federation or confederation if the other nations stand for these forms of government.

The right to self-determination of nations is one of the greatest rights mankind has won, that is why it is sanctioned in the UN Charter and has actually been transformed into one of the basic principles of the democratic processes which are taking place in Europe and the world.

As far as Albania is concerned, it is for relations of good neighbourliness with Yugoslavia, for a broader and all-round cooperation with it. We all will strive in this direction in the future, too, and wish that reason and wisdom prevail in the settlement of Kosovo problem, so that Serbia does not turn it into a conflict that would pose a threat to peace and security not only in Yugoslavia but also in the Balkans and beyond.

The Albanian people have always sincerely wished to live in friendship with all the neighbouring peoples. Albania's good relations with Yugoslavia, Greece, Italy as well as with other countries, and the closest possible cooperation on the basis of mutual respect and benefit, constitutes one of the fundamental strategic directions of our foreign policy.

Mr. President, in this marked anniversary of the founding of the United Nations Organization along with our best wishes for its strengthening and advancement, Albania would like to reiterate its commitment to the UN and its charter, and its support for the activities it carries on to the benefit of peace, security and international cooperation.

Our respect for and appraisal of the UN Charter stems from the fact that it carries a democratic ideal about regulating international relations, an ideal that reflects the tragic experience of the devastating wars which swept over Europe and the whole world in the course of this century, and in particular, the struggle of the peoples, the Albanian people included, against fascism.

The UN Charter and its correct implementation, we hold, is the best instrument to protect and harmonise the interests of sovereign states and peoples, and the whole world community. If we are going to abide by this charter, the different conflicts flaring up could be settled in a peaceful way and to the benefit of the sides concerned, as well as to the benefit of general peace and security.

We maintain that the significance of the United Nations is further enhanced at the present time when many problems, like disarmament, protection of the environment, war against drug trafficking, backwardness in economic development of many countries, protection of children, development of education, science and technology, have been turned into global issues which can hardly be settled with the individual efforts of one state or group of states. They can be settled only with the contribution of all the international community. The United Nations can do much in these directions. It represents the most suitable place where ideas can and should be thrashed out, initiatives taken, etc.

The UN has rightly devoted particular attention to economic problems, assistance to revive the economy of poor countries, encouragement of their progress, easing their debt burden—a consequence of neocolonialist expansion and the armament race.

We hail the initiatives that have been taken in these directions, such as the North-South dialogue, etc., while maintaining that the big industrialised countries, which enriched themselves also with the sweat and toil of the peoples of Africa, Latin America, Asia, have many obligations towards them.

The steps that have already been taken towards easing of tension and solving many regional conflicts, as well as the efforts that are being made to settle many international issues preoccupying the world have created an atmosphere which gives rise to hope for the whole mankind. However, events like Iraq's aggression on Kuwait spoil this atmosphere and raise obstacles to this positive process.

Albania has condemned the aggression on and annexation of Kuwait by Iraq. It has demanded the immediate withdrawal of the Iraqi troops from Kuwait and respect of the freedom and national independence of this sovereign and peaceful state. Were it not condemned, Iraq's aggression would constitute a dangerous precedent.

Iraq should observe the UN resolutions and the well-wishing and constructive positions of the Arab states and put an end to its adventure. Withdrawal from Kuwait would be to the benefit not only of Iraq itself, but the whole Arab cause, which it claims to defend and support.

The international community has adopted a correct stand towards Iraqi aggression. The events should not, however, become an excuse for leaving aside the Palestinian problem, the right of Palestinians to have their own homeland and state.

The international community should not forget this right, the fulfillment of which is the key to the settlement of Middle East conflicts. Current events in the Middle East, unfavourable as they are, should serve as an encouragement in this direction.

Mr. President, the Albanian people are working resolutely to build a better life for themselves. The path they chose by their free will and desire brought them freedom and national independence and extricated them, within four decades, from backwardness to modern life. The transformations that have taken place in Albania are in sharp contrast,like day to night,with the past. This is not a figure of speech, but a reality for everyone to see.

This big advance called for sacrifices and imposed on us many privations in many directions. The more so when one bears in mind that our development was carried out in fierce struggle against the backwardness inherited from the past, as well as against interference by external forces. Hardly has any other country suffered more than Albania from the cold war. Anger, pressure, threats and blockades, at times from the East and at times from the West, have swept, almost constantly, this tiny country on the shores of the Adriatic. And we do feel their consequences to this day, just as not infrequently we feel their revival.

Our country has actually embarked on a new stage of its development. We have to utilise with greater efficiency the material resources our country is rich in. This requires up-to-date technology, knowledgeable and emancipated people; it calls for the promotion of creative initiative and the extension of cooperation with other countries. Our people are working in all these directions.

What we call deepening of democracy through the enhancement of the role of the masses represents a broad process of change and transformation that is embracing all sectors—the economy, politics, social relations within the country and foreign relations, etc. We do not follow this policy either because it is in vogue, because someone is imposing it on us, or proceeding from tactical motives. It is a necessity of development and meets the needs of the country. That is why it is understood and well received by our people. It represents a fundamental component of our socialist ideal about the building of a fair and democratic society in which every citizen lives on his own sweat and toil, free and respected, on the basis of his contribution to the development and progress of his country.

Mr. President, wishing the proceedings of this session of the United Nations General Assembly most fruitful work to the benefit of peace, I would like to assure you that my country will not spare its endeavours for the attainment of this lofty aim.

Meets Perez de Cuellar, UN Officials

AU3009155790 Tirana ATA in English 1704 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Tirana, Septemer 29 (ATA)—On September 28 before noon, Comrade Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the PSR of Albania went to the UN seat in New York, leading the delegation of our country which attends the proceedings of the 45th session of the General Assembly of this organization.

At the entrance of the central UN edifice, Comrade Ramiz Alia was welcomed by Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of this organization, who wished him welcome and full success at his work.

Comrade Ramiz Alia paid a call on Guido de Marco, chairman of the UN General Assembly and then visited the working hall of the Assembly, the Security Council, its other forums, etc.

Later on the chairman of the General Assembly gave the floor to Comrade Ramiz Alia. After submitting his speech to the UN General Assembly, Comrade Ramiz Alia was received by Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of the UN General Assembly, with whom he had a friendly talk.

In the course of visit and talks Comrade Ramiz Alia was accompanied by Reis Malile, minister for foreign affairs, and Bashkim Pitarka. permanent representative of the PSR of Albania under the UNO.

Meets PRC Foreign Minister

AU3009160190 Tirana ATA in English 1710 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Tirana, September 29 (ATA)—Comrade Ramiz Alia received in New York on September 28 afternoon the minister of foreign affairs of the PR [Peoples Republic] of China, Qian Qichen, who leads the delegation of his country in the proceedings of the 45th session of the UN General Assembly.

On this occasion, they exchanged opinions on the possibilities for the [word indistinct] of the bilateral relations [word indistinct] mutual interest and the friendly relations between the two countries [words indistinct] basis to carry them ahead. During the negotiations, they dwelt also on some aspects of the present international situation. They are conducted in a constructive and friendly atmosphere. Present in the meeting was also the director of the International Relations Study Institute, Prof. Sofokli Lazri. The Chinese foreign minister was accompanied by members of the delegation and the personnel of the Mission of the PR of China in the UNO.

Meets Romanian President Iliescu

AU3009155790 Tirana ATA in English 1717 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Tirana, September 29 (ATA)—The president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the PSR of Albania, Comrade Ramiz Alia, met with Ion Iliescu, Romania's president, at the UN in New York on September 28. In the talks conducted on this occasion they exchanged opinions regarding the bilateral Albanian-Romanian relations and expressed the common desire to develop them further, according to the interests of our two countries and region; both heads of state dwelt particularly on problems preoccupying the Balkans today and pointed to the concern of both parties for the promotion of the process of Balkan cooperation. Likewise they pointed out that both countries will render their contribution so that peace and security in the Balkans keep strengthening incessantly. The meeting proceeded in a friendly atmosphere and with mutual understanding.

Attending the meeting were also the minister of foreign affairs Reis Malile and the director of the International Relations Study Institute, Prof. Sofokli Lazri.

Meets Tanzanian President Mwinyi

AU3009144090 Tirana ATA in English 0809 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Tirana, September 30 (ATA)—On September 29, Comrade Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the PSR of Albania met and had talks with Tanzania's President Ali Hassan Mwinyi in the residence of the latter in New York. The talks were focused on problems that have to do with the further strengthening of the good relations existing between the two countries in various fields of mutual interest and the concrete roads to this end.

At the same time they spoke also on the proceedings of the 45th session of the United Nations General Assembly and on questions of the international situation, particularly in the region of southern Africa, Middle East and the Mediterranean.

The meeting proceeded in a cordial spirit and full understanding. Attending were the members of both delegations participating in the current session of the UN General Assembly.

Meets Finnish Prime Minister

AU3009144290 Tirana ATA in English 0800 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Tirana, September 30 (ATA)—On September 29, Comrade Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the PSR of Albania met at his seat in New York with the premier of Finland, Harri Holkeri, with whom he conducted talks regarding the further development of the existing friendly relations between our two countries in various fields of mutual interest.

The talks were concentrated mainly on problems having to do with the process of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The Finnish premier expressed to Comrade Ramiz the support of his government for Albania's full participation in this process.

In course of the talks they examined questions of the current international situation. They were conducted in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Attending the meeting were also the director of the International Relations Study Institute, Prof. Sofokli Lazri, the permanent representative of the PSRA to the UN, Bashkim Pitarka, whereas for the Finnish party the members of this country's delegation to the current session of the UN General Assembly and functionaries of Finland's mission at the United Nations.

Alia Meets U.S. Industrialist in New York

AU2809125590 Tirana ATA in English 1804 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Tirana, September 27 (ATA)—Comrade Ramiz Alia had a meeting in New York with the president of the Occidental Petroleum Corporation and distinguished public personality, Armand Hammer.

During the meeting, they talked about the possibilities existing for the economic cooperation between the United States of America and Albania, in the oil sector in particular.

The meeting was friendly and cordial. Present was also the permanent representative of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania to the UNO [United Nations Organization], Bashkim Pitarka.

Alia Sends Greetings to PRC on National Day

AU3009142290 Tirana ATA in English 0812 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Tirana, September 30 (ATA)—Comrade Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania, sent the following message of greetings to the president of the People's Republic of China, Yang Shangkun.

"On occasion of the 41st anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, on behalf of the Albanian people, the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania as well as in my name, I convey to you the sincere greetings and to the Chinese people the best wishes for their happiness and the country's advance.

"I express my conviction that the relations of friendship and cooperation between Albania and China will further develop in the future to the benefit of our two peoples."

Delegation Observes Council of Europe Meeting

AU2809125290 Tirana ATA in English 0920 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Tirana, September 27 (ATA)—The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe organized a discussion on the problems which have to do with the Conference on the Security and Cooperation in Europe, in Strasbourg on September 26, 27. Besides the member countries of the Council of Europe, invited in this activity were also parliamentary delegations of the CSCE participating countries. A delegation of the People's Assembly of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of

Albania, headed by the deputy Aranit Cela, attended it as an observer, at the invitation of the Parliamentary Assembly.

In the opening address of this discussion, the president of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Anders Bjork, hailed the participation of our country in this activity. The delegation of the People's Assembly of the PSR of Albania was received by Anders Bjork and by Catherine la Lumiere, general secretary of the Council of Europe, with whom they conducted friendly talks.

Tirana Students' Questionnaire on Democratization

AU2909185390 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 23 Sep 90 p 3

[Article by Kosta Barjaba, secretary to the Youth Committee of the Enver Hoxha University of Tirana: "Student Youth: The Party's Comrades-in-Arms in Deepening Democracy"]

[Excerpts] University students organized an evening dance a few days ago on the campus, at the precise point where rumormongers expected and predicted something else. More than 3,000 students took part. What, one wonders, would a skeptic say if we told him that in the course of the evening there was nothing but song, dance, and enthusiasm? What about all the rumors? Let us leave the rumormongers to their debacle, and enter the broad and rich life of our wonderful students.

"We know that the enemy has had us in his sights, and still has," one student said to Comrade Ramiz Alia at the party Central Committee Secretariat a few days ago. "Of course, this makes us more responsible, vigilant, and at the same time stronger." Our student youth's militant attitude to the intensive developments of our society today could not be better expressed. [passage omitted]

In a recent anonymous questionnaire circulated a few days ago in some departments of the Enver Hoxha University of Tirana, 100 percent of students replied to the question "What do you think of the new developments taking place in our society in the economic, political, legal, and diplomatic spheres?" more or less like this: "We welcome and support them. They are a necessity of the times, and a logical continuation of our road of development," etc. These answers show a marked tendency among young people to support what is new; they are an important and encouraging premise which guarantees the commitment of the younger generation of the intelligentsia to the complex and difficult struggle to bring to life the party's great program for the continual further democratization of the country's life. [passage omitted]

What, specifically, do students think? Let us see. "In some cases," some underline, "the changes should be made more quickly—without delay—and more fully." Others demand that in some particular areas they should run even deeper. In their answers, 15 percent of the students surveyed insisted that the new steps, particularly in the economic field, are not being properly supported by tangible organizational measures, and are being hindered by cadres and managers at various levels. Let us excuse them if they are mistaken or are taking an unbalanced view, but 12 percent of those replying think that the changes should have been carried out earlier. Others believe that they are taking place at the proper time, when the main conditions are ripe.

Objectively, the new changes make some students waver, hesitate, and have doubts, apparently because of a failure to understand the new phenomena in our life and development. For instance, more than 10 percent of students (including some from the economics faculty) say they do not have a clear conception of the new economic mechanism. Lack of a proper understanding of the changes in legislation and the legal fields extends to 14 percent of those questioned, while the number of those who are unclear about the new directions in our state's diplomatic activity is smaller, no more than eight percent of those questioned.

Without trying to measure the accuracy of these figures on an apothecary's scales, there still remains a problem. Apparently, the clarity, comprehensiveness, and precision of the party's directives and their enactment in various fields have still not reached everybody. No suggestions for the propaganda work of the party and the social organizations, especially the youth organization, can be superfluous, and in this case they become necessary. "We think," some students underline, "that certain groups of our people cannot react without excesses to this new level of the democratization of the legislation of our socialist society and its humane attitude to the protection of individual rights." "Therefore," they conclude, "some shallow, deluded, and poorly brought up people became involved in the recent events, and turned into deserters." The fact that about 30 percent of the students we asked give this conclusion makes you think, and also realistically admit that, despite the deep changes we are implementing in our lives, we are not working hard enough to explain them to people and to prepare people to cope with them. Changes do not happen of their own accord; people make them. [passage omitted]

'Loose-Tongued, Wicked People' Attack Communists

AU0110095890 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 22 Sep 90 p 3

[Astrit Nuri article: "Both a Communist and a Private Trader?!..."]

[Excerpts] An anonymous report came to the editorial office and informed us: "A communist has opened a private restaurant in Vore near Tirana; another communist has opened a butcher's shop near the cobbler's in Marikaj; a communist has opened a beautiful cafe with six tables and a tape recorder in Babru!" [passage omitted]

First of all, let us listen to a "fragment of conversation" among comrades in a committee about the aforementioned events.

"This is not right; it is not proper for someone who is a communist to try to become a private trader as well! The two do not go together," Besnik said.

"If this happens," someone said, "where will this communist do the party's work? In his own little shop with his son and daughter?"

"It is not a question of where he does the party's work," Ramadan Garo interrupted. "First and foremost, a communist has a different mission in life. According to the party statute, he is a leader of the masses by his example and character. In his own words, and in his documents, he has stated that he favors the strengthening of common socialist property, and not the development of private property. How can his request for a private shop hold water and be considered normal?"

We do not wish to alter even a comma of the aforementioned arguments and interpretations. The truth is that a communist will always struggle to develop and strengthen large-scale common property; he will struggle to be in the midst of the great masses of people, leading them by his example, work, and behavior. Of course, someone might say, "There is a law about starting private stores and services. The government has just approved it. Why should a communist be excluded from this law? Is he not a citizen like everybody else?" There is indeed a law. It must not be forgotten that in addition to this law there is also a "law" for communists, which concerns their character and role in society, as described above. We would even say that the laws of the state are indeed progressing, but this does not mean that they should smother or eliminate the laws of society and social standards and customs. In this context, we would make a very useful and valuable suggestion to any communist who seeks to identify the psychology of society *with the law. Does he want to start off on his* own? Let him open a state store with two or three of his comrades, acquiring material resources from an enterprise, calculating the profits to be paid back to the enterprise reponsible for his supplies, and a further part of the profits for himself. Could this be done? Undoubtedly. It would even be a good idea for him to open his shop next door to a private store and in competition with it, demonstrating his own superiority in materials, hygiene, ethics, and so forth. [passage omitted]

There have been some people, especially recently, who in the hope that "the impossible will happen" have started to say unpleasant and dishonest things about communists, and who have even been saying, without the slightest shame, that "the communists have no strength left," etc. In a word, these loose-tongued and wicked people have a great passion and "longing" to attack communists, their character, and their work. This involves the aforementioned slanders. In fact, such "attacks," ideas, and mischief can be found among people not only in Tirana, but also in some districts and as far afield as Prrenjas in Librazhd District.

What should such people bear in mind? First, they should consider the fact that our communists never have been and never will be people to be insulted, that the time of the communists has not passed and never will. Why? Because the communists, as young and old in Albania know, are the sons and daughters of the people, the people's most select individuals, and the country's finest patriots, who have worked and struggled alongside the people and leading the people in order to make Albania what it is today and to make it better tomorrow. [passage omitted]

Further Coverage of President Zhelev's U.S. Visit

Offers To Dismantle SS-23 Missiles

AU2809122490 Sofia BTA in English 1040 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Washington, 28 Sep (BTA)—At his yesterday's meeting with U.S. Deputy Secretary Lawrence Eagleberger in Washington, Bulgaria's president, Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, extended an invitation to send military specialists to Bulgaria to dismantle eight medium-range SS-23 tactical missiles supplied by the Soviet Union in 1986, the head of the Office of the President, Mr. Ivaylo Trifonov, has announced. The announcement was released by THE WASHINGTON POST.

Interviewed by journalists, the Bulgarian president said he would demand to hold "an independent investigation" of the accusations that the Bulgarian secret services were involved in the attempt on the life of Pope John Paul II in May 1981.

As it is well known, in 1986 the Italian court discontinued its attempts to find out "the Bulgarian connection" in the crime. But Dr. Zhelev stated that if an official investigation of the circumstances related to the attempt on the life of the pope was initiated by a Bulgarian parliamentary commission, the commission would work under his control. "The investigation will be an independent one, because it is to our interest to make all details of the case clear," the Bulgarian president stated. He said that Bulgaria would seek the assistance of other intelligence services to investigate the circumstances related to the attempt on the life of the pope and that contacts with the CIA had already been established.

Calls Meeting With Bush 'Historic'

AU2809204990 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, president of the Republic, shared his impressions of the meeting with U.S. President George Bush in an interview with BTA's correspondent in New York.

This was a very exciting meeting, Dr. Zhelev said. It is the first time that a Bulgarian head of state was received in the White House to meet the U.S. President. This is an event of historic importance, no matter who experiences it.

I am very pleased with the meeting, because we were able, even if quite briefly, to acquaint President Bush with the situation in our country, with the needs of our young democracy, and with the need for assistance.

I got the impression that President Bush is quite familiar with the events in Eastern Europe, and also, to a great extent, with events in Bulgaria. Hence, there was not much to explain. Our general impression from the meeting is that President Bush was well disposed toward us and the meeting proceeded very positively.

The most important thing for me was to have contributed to changing Bulgaria's image. You know, that over many years, as a result of the former regime's activities, our country had a very negative image abroad, therefore all my meetings in Washington, and also my final meeting with the President, were aimed at creating an entirely different image of Bulgaria.

Asked about his opinion on the fact that the meeting was transferred to Washington, Dr. Zhelev pointed out to the BTA correspondent in New York, that this was undoubtedly a benevolent gesture on the U.S. side.

Foreign Minister's Absence Noted

AU2809174090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1630 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Report by special correspondent Aleksandur Vladkov—recorded]

[Text] Zhelyu Zhelev, president of the Republic, met U.S. President George Bush at the White House today. They had a 15-minute talk on questions of bilateral relations and on the political situation in Bulgaria and the Balkans.

Ivaylo Trifonov, chief of the President's Office, and Ognyan Pishev, the president's economic adviser, were the only members of the Bulgarian delegation accompanying the president of the Republic who attended the meeting.

Contrary to the traditional protocol of such meetings, Lyuben Gotsev, minister of foreign affairs who is here in the United States, and the Bulgarian ambassador to Washington were absent.

As a matter of fact, Ognyan Pishev's presence at the Bush-Zhelev meeting provided grounds for the U.S. diplomats and journalists to presume that Ognyan Pishev will be appointed as head of the Bulgarian diplomatic mission in the U.S. capital.

The talk was short, but as it was assured on both sides, it was businesslike and cordial. Zhelyu Zhelev briefly described the situation in Bulgaria, categorically stressing the basic conclusion: Bulgaria is no longer a communist state. In support of this statement, he pointed out the democratic reforms in our country which are developing dynamically and are of an irreversible nature. The assertion of the multiparty system and the free democratic elections, the democratically elected parliament, and the existence of a democratically elected president, whose functions he has the honor of exercising, were stressed in Zhelev's statement. Zhelyu Zhelev did not fail to mention the country's serious problems in the economic and financial sphere and the urgent need for humanitarian and economic assistance which emerged, last but not least, as a result of the Persian Gulf crisis and as a result of Bulgaria's principle-based stand on this important international problem.

The U.S. President expressed his satisfaction over the prospects of intensifying bilateral relations which became possible thanks to the real political and economic reforms in our country. He specially congratulated Bulgaria in support of the UN resolutions related to the Persian Gulf crisis, which in his view, also represents proof of real democratic changes in Bulgaria.

As I already had the opportunity to point out, the meeting was short, which can be explained by the fact that it was transferred from New York to the White House in Washington at the last moment.

I think that this was not to the Bulgarian side's disadvantage; on the contrary, it was a pronounced demonstration of benevolent approach and of the readiness for assistance in overcoming the difficult economic and social crisis in Bulgaria.

A short while ago, President Zhelyu Zhelev and his delegation arrived in New York. Today, or to put it more precisely, tonight in Bulgarian time, talks with Edgar Bronfman, secretary general of the Jewish World Congress, are envisaged. Zhelyu Zhelev is expected to read a report to the Council of International Relations and his meeting with Turkish President Ozal is also scheduled to take place.

In the evening Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general, is expected to give an official dinner in the Bulgarian president's honor.

Talks With Turkish President Ozal

AU2909140390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0600 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] The change in the program of Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, president of the Republic, caused by his meeting yesterday evening with U.S. President George Bush at the White House, has also led to certain changes in his program for his stay in New York, where he arrived late last night. Our special correspondent Aleksandur Vladkov has sent us the following report:

[Begin Vladkov recording] The planned meeting with Secretary General Bronfman of the World Jewish Congress and his speech at the Council for International Relations have been postponed to a later date. However, President Zhelev held talks with the president of Turkey and the foreign ministers of Austria and Greece.

In their talks, President Turgut Ozal stated that bilateral relations are no longer burdened by the problems of the eighties. He offered immediate economic cooperation on a bilateral basis, for which, in his view, good preconditions exist because of the similar structures of the two economies. Ozal once again put forward his idea concerning a regional economic organization of the countries of the Black Sea region.

Zhelyu Zhelev invited the Turkish president to visit Bulgaria, and the visit is even likely to take place next year.

The two state leaders did not at all discuss questions concerning the ethnic problems in Bulgaria and Turkey, because the issues which until recently were the subject of dispute in this field are already being resolved, and in part have already disappeared. This was the sense of Turgut Ozal's reply to questions asked by Turkish journalists following the meeting.

In the talks between President Zhelyu Zhelev and Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock, both sides laid emphasis on traditional ties between Bulgaria and Austria as a favorable basis for new dynamism in their relations under the new conditions.

Alois Mock stated that Bulgaria may count upon Austria's support, also in relation to preferential cooperation between the 24 European countries and Bulgaria.

For his part, Zhelyu Zhelev gave an assurance that the new Bulgarian Government will vigorously carry out the planned reforms and thus will create good conditions for attracting Austrian capital to Bulgaria.

Greek Foreign Minister Andonios Samaras thanked Zhelyu Zhelev for the first speech which he made as head of state in the Grand National Assembly, in which he described Bulgarian-Greek relations as a model of bilateral cooperation in the Balkans. He stated that Greece strongly supports Bulgaria joining the EC and all the international Western European structures, and he asked the Bulgarian president for permission to continue to defend this position of the Greek Government in the future.

Zhelyu Zhelev declared that Bulgaria supports the idea that the positive developments in Bulgarian-Greek relations should multiply, and he reiterated the idea of forming a bilateral economic working group for exchanging necessary information and coordinating interests.

All the meetings today, with the exception of the one with Turgut Ozal, were attended by Bulgarian Foreign Minister Lyuben Gotsev, who invited his Greek colleague Samaras to visit Bulgaria. The invitation was accepted, and the visit will probably take place during October. [end recording]

Meets Iliescu, Jovic, Havel, Shevardnadze

AU3009190790 Sofia BTA in English 1820 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] New York, 30 Sep (BTA correspondent)—Addressing the World Summit for Children, which opened here today, Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, president of the Republic, said, among other things, that "the drafting of a new constitution and legislation which will be based on universal values is the top priority of the incumbent Bulgarian parliament. That is why I believe that the early ratification by Bulgaria of the Convention on the Rights of the Child will come as further evidence of our desire to solve our own problems in concord with the standards and the values of the international community."

The Bulgarian president continued his bilateral meetings with heads of state and government.

The spokesman for the president told the press that at a meeting with Mr. Ion Iliescu, president of Romania, the sides agreed on the need to seek new ways for the promotion of bilateral relations. The problem of the chemical pollution of Ruse was high on the agenda. The Romanian president said he had sent a reply to Dr. Zhelev's message. The Bulgarian president said that after the production of chlorine was halted in Giurgiu, chlorine residues were still in evidence and, therefore, the situation has to be reviewed comprehensively. Mr. Iliescu added that this transitional period has very grave economic effects on Romania, that the Giurgiu works had devoured a huge investment but the government was willing to solve the problem.

Judging by the briefing of the spokesman, the Romanian position on the matter remains unchanged and promises heavily outnumber actions.

Another dispute was discussed when Dr. Zhelev conferred with Mr. Borisav Jovic, president of Yugoslavia. The latter objected to publications in Bulgaria which, in his view, laid claims to the population of Yugoslavia.

Dr. Zhelev answered that the raising of the so-called Macedonian question in Yugoslavia is an attempt by certain forces to externalize their own problems. He stressed that the present-day political relations should not be mixed up with historical problems. Dr. Zhelev indicated further on that Bulgaria lays no claims to the self-determination of the population in Yugoslavia but no claims should be laid to Bulgaria's population, either, because the right to self-determination is an inalienable and fundamental right of every person and of every people.

The presidential spokesman described as "very cordial" the meeting with Mr. Vaclav Havel, president of Czechoslovakia, at which the two heads of state briefed each other on the progress of political processes in the two countries. Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev emphasized that as Czechoslovakia outdistances Bulgaria in the rate of change, Bulgaria could learn from the experience of Czechoslovakia.

The Bulgarian president had a long session of talks with Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR. Mr. Shevardnadze came to confer with Dr. Zhelev at the hotel where he is accommodated.

The spokesman said the Soviet minister noted that his country has the maximum understanding of the problems encountered by Bulgaria. He stressed the Soviet economic difficulties and added that it is precisely to them rather than to any political considerations that the suspension of some deliveries to Bulgaria was due. The abrupt transition to hard currency settlements was also due to those difficulties.

The Soviet foreign minister said he would inform Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev of the need to find forms to help Bulgaria which, due to its excessive dependence on the Soviet economy, is more adversely affected by the Soviet difficulties than the other Eastern European countries.

The sides agreed that Bulgaro-Soviet relations should undergo a qualitative change, retaining everything positive and discarding everything negative.

The spokesman said that the situation in the Persian Gulf was high on the agenda of the talks, and Dr. Zhelev told the chief Soviet diplomat about the intention to send a limited Bulgarian troop contingent to the Gulf. Mr. Shevardnadze replied that "there is nothing to be afraid of regarding that."

Interviewed on Political Climate

AU3009133190 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 29 Sep 90

["BTA-supplied text" of interview with President Zhelyu Zhelev broadcast on "American National Radio" (NR), read by unidentifed announcer; place and date not given]

[Text] [NR] The Bulgarian Government is a socialist one. The prime minister is also a Socialist. Can the policy which it follows be a reformist one?

[Zhelev] The policy of Bulgaria does not depend solely on the government; it also depends on the presidential institution and the opposition. It may indeed be reformist and democratic, despite the fact that the government is a one-party government. The presidential institution possesses sufficient influence to introduce correctives. It may serve as a link between the opposition and the government.

[NR] How do you assess the opposition's refusal to enter a coalition government, because from what you say it is most logical for Bulgaria to have a coalition government?

[Zhelev] A compromise formula was worked out on a so-called program government, because the opposition refused to enter a coalition. I consider that the formation of a coalition is possible, and this would be better for Bulgaria, because it would open up the possibility for the new, young opposition parties to enter the corridors of power and accumulate experience in exercising power. I believe, and continue to believe, that Bulgaria needs a coalition government.

[NR] You are a leader of the opposition. How can (?you help) the opposition impose its influence on the government's policy? The Union of Democratic Forces [SDS] is nonetheless in the minority.

[Zhelev] I am not a leader of the opposition, but the president of Bulgaria. For this reason, I do not represent the opposition and try to be a president of all Bulgarians. Irrespective of the fact that they are in the minority, the opposition holds strong positions in both parliament and society, so that in reality it is not a minority.

[NR] Do you consider that the 53 percent of votes which the Socialists received in the June elections was the result of manipulations?

[Zhelev] It is necessary to make certain corrections. The former Communist Party did not receive 53 percent of the votes, but 53 percent of the seats. Some 47 percent of the electorate voted for it. These do not correspond, they are a result of machinations committed during the determination of the electoral constituencies.

[NR] These 47 percent are nonetheless reality. Are there so many supporters of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] in the country?

[Zhelev] Those strata of the population who give way to manipulations voted for the BSP, primarily the population in the villages, which is not sufficiently informed about the development of affairs. However, the most dynamic strata of the population, the youth, the intelligentsia, and the inhabitants of the large towns, voted for the opposition.

[NR] When will the economic reforms begin?

[Zhelev] Important laws are about to be adopted, such as laws on ownership, banking, land reform, and so forth. Antimonopoly laws will be adopted in the very near future, which are to eliminate the monopoly of the state in important spheres of the economy.

[NR] When?

[Zhelev] Literally within the next one or two weeks.

[NR] Do the American officials with whom you speak here ask such a question?

[Zhelev] Yes, they often ask it, but many of them are well informed of the frequent visits and meetings between representatives of the two countries. They know that reforms lie ahead.

[NR] Winter is approaching, and in a number of statements you have predicted an extremely gloomy picture of the coming winter months—cold, dark, and hungry. Are there any promises from the U.S. side to help you?

[Zhelev] Promises have been made, but a promise is one thing, and carrying it out is another. I do not doubt that we will receive real economic aid, because U.S. political circles are clearly aware of the complexity of the situation in Bulgaria and know how important it is for us to receive help at this difficult moment for us. For example, we received an assurance from Mr. Eagleberger that 100,000 tons of feed corn, which are so vital for our animal farming, are already on their way to Bulgaria.

[NR] Let us talk about the crisis in the Persian Gulf.

[Zhelev] Bulgaria is perhaps the European country most affected by this crisis, because we have lost $1.4 billion which Iraq owes us. We are also suffering losses in other ways; these are the 500,000 tonnes of petroleum, and perhaps an equal quantity of petroleum which we expected to receive through the Soviet Union from Iraq. We are strictly observing the embargo imposed by the United Nations, and will continue to observe it in the future, but we are suffering great losses as a result of this during this important period of reform.

[NR] How will you get petroleum, as you have no foreign currency, and how do you think you will solve this problem?

[Zhelev] We hope to receive help from the United States through Saudi Arabia in order to prevent the worst from happening, for Bulgaria to suffer from hunger and cold. We have assurances from both the United States and the European economic organizations that we will receive aid in the form of petroleum through Saudi Arabia.

[NR] At your meeting with Eagleberger, did you receive any more specific assurances, or hopes for petroleum?

[Zhelev] Yes, he showed understanding for our position and promised assistance to ensure that we receive petroleum for the winter, precisely through Saudi Arabia.

[NR] Tell us about other events in Bulgaria: the burning of the party building, or the protests against the rights granted to the ethnic Turks? Is there a danger of extremist actions, or the establishment of certain extremist organizations?

[Zhelev] Yes, such a danger does exist, and extremism is a real danger for us, since, as a result of the grave economic situation, despair is spreading among the population, and this leads to desperate actions, which provide good soil for the development of extremism and organizations for extremist actions.

[NR] May it then be expected that the government will take firm measures in some form?

[Zhelev] We support a solution in the economic and political spheres, that is, we want to solve matters by economic and political decisions. However, if serious excesses occur, firmer measures may be expected within the framework of the law. However, we hope that we will avoid such an undesirable development.

[NR] Are the protests against the rights of the Turks also based on economic causes?

[Zhelev] No. In this case, it is not a question only of economic reasons, but the grave situation in the economic sphere contributes to heating the atmosphere, and accordingly creates conditions for extremism. This is rather a result of accumulations from the past; what the previous regime did in relation to the ethnic Turks was a political adventure. For years on end, such tension did not exist between the Bulgarians and the Turks, and they lived in good mutual understanding on the territory of sovereign Bulgaria. The Bulgarian people is not racially motivated. I will give you just one example. Bulgaria is the only country and the Bulgarians are the only people who saved their Jewish population from Hitler's death camps.

Notes 'Important Step' in TV Interview

AU3009195890 Sofia BTA in English 1917 GMT 30 Sep 90

["Zhelev: 'Bulgaria Gets a New Image'"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 30 Sep (BTA)—This evening Bulgarian Television aired an interview which Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, president of the Republic, gave to the television's special correspondent in Washington during his visit to the United States.

"An important step has been made towards the rediscovery of Bulgaria as a democracy, the country is getting a new image": This is how Dr. Zhelev characterized his talks with U.S. officials.

"My twenty meetings in the first four days in the United States with representatives of the U.S. Administration, politicians and journalists were exceedingly useful and fruitful, everywhere I found understanding of our problems, sympathy and willingness to help," the president pointed out.

Notes Legacy of Problems for Children

AU3009191390 Sofia BTA in English 1854 GMT 30 Sep 90

["President on Bulgarian Children's Problems"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 30 Sep (BTA)—"I hope that the signing of a joint declaration and a plan for action at the forthcoming World Summit for Children will give a powerful impetus to the acceleration of the processes related to the solution of children's problems in Bulgaria," said Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, president of the Republic, in a statement which Bulgarian Television aired this evening. The president's address was recorded before he left for the United States.

The president pointed out that the totalitarian regime has left a dire legacy of problems concerning children's life and development. The infant mortality rate in the country is still high. Environmental pollution poses an exceedingly great danger to children's physical and mental health. Housing and schooling conditions are still open problems. High-quality children's foods are unavailable. The so-called social orphans (almost one in three children under 14 is a social orphan) are in an alarming condition. Education is also plagued by unsolved problems. The fact that at the end of the 20th century 60 percent of the population has primary education or less gives cause for concern, President Zhelev said. He noted that after a long silence the problems of juvenile delinquency, drug abuse and vagrancy are only now coming to light.

Assembly Delegates View Sending Troops to Gulf

AU2809132490 Sofia BTA in English 1032 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Sofia, 28 Sep (BTA)—The leader of the opposition Union of Democratic Forces, Dr. Petur Beron, shares the opinion of President Zhelyu Zhelev that a limited military contingent should be sent to the Persian Gulf. Dr. Beron expresses his personal opinion in an interview brought out today by DUMA by saying that the president's proposal makes sense and that the sending of some non-military units or a medical team there would be possible and reasonable. "We could send there as Dr. Zhelev suggested, a specialized sapper brigade or, which would be even better, a medical team," he says.

"If the suggestion for joining the international security forces was made by the United Nations, then it is a recognition of the prestige of our country and of its right to be an impartial judge," the deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Socialist Party, Mr. Dimitur Yonchev, underlines in the same paper. In his opinion the material interest is also important for Bulgaria, because all expenses incurred for sending the team and its equipment will be covered by the United Nations.

"But if not suggested by the United Nations, this act looks very much like interference in somebody else's affairs, which would be a very risky undertaking, even it is backed up by the United States," Mr. Yonchev points out.

Mr. Ahmed Dogan, leader of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms, declares himself to be categorically against this proposal, his arguments being the geopolitical and geostrategic location of Bulgaria. In his opinion, from a political point of view Bulgaria has no ground for such interference. "With our participation we will get involved in a conflict, from which it would be difficult for Bulgaria to get out," Mr. Dogan says.

Mr. Rosen Karadimov, an independent member of the Bulgarian parliament, supports the proposal for Bulgaria's participation in the events in the Persian Gulf region, but only if the military contingent comprises of volunteers. In his opinion this is the only way of guaranteeing a small country's right to sovereignty.

Podkrepa Union Doctors Offer Aid in Gulf Crisis

AU2809132990 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1300 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The Podkrepa Labor Confederation has issued a declaration addressed to the U.S. and Kuwaiti ambassadors in Sofia.

The declaration states: We, the Bulgarian doctors and medical workers in the Podkrepa Labor Confederation, in assessing the exceptionally tense political situation in the Persian Gulf region, officially declare our readiness to take part in the large-scale international campaign against Saddam Husayn's aggression in Kuwait. Our doctors and nurses wish to participate individually or collectively in rendering medical assistance to those injured in the region.

We consider that in this way we will be able at least partially to compensate for the indirect participation of the former Bulgarian regime in the aggression carried out by the Iraqi dictator.

With most sincere good wishes,

[Signed] The leadership of the Podkrepa health care workers' trade union.

Friendship Agreement With GDR Discontinued

AU2809123090 Sofia BTA in English 1058 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Sofia, 28 Sep (BTA)—The Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that by exchanging notes, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria and the GDR discontinued the agreement on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance signed by Bulgaria and the German Democratic Republic on September 14, 1977, as of October 3, 1990, the date of the actual reunification of Germany.

Kostov-Led Assembly Delegation Visits Hungary

AU2909171690 Sofia BTA in English 1542 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Budapest, 29 Sep (BTA correspondent)—A Bulgarian parliamentary delegation completed its visit here today. That was the first such visit since the election of the new Bulgarian and Hungarian parliaments. The head of the delegation, Mr. Ivan Kostov, chairman of the Grand National Assembly Standing Committee on Economic Policy, said that the visit was fruitful and is expected to give a fresh impetus to Bulgaro-Hungarian parliamentary ties.

The Bulgarian parliamentarians showed particular interest in the legislative activity of the Hungarian State Assembly in connection mainly with the transition to a market economy.

Over the last two days the Bulgarian delegation met with leaders of the Hungarian parliament and with a number of economic experts. Their discussions focused on economic matters such as privatization, economic restructuring, banking, taxation and finances, the operation of the Hungarian Stock Exchange, etc.

Lukanov Addresses Assembly on USSR Visit

AU2809114390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0938 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Speech by Council of Ministers Chairman Andrey Lukanov at the 39th session of the Seventh Grand National Assembly in Sofia—live]

[Text] Esteemed Mr. Chairman, esteemed people's deputies:

I would like to express my thanks to those people's deputies who expressed an interest in hearing a short briefing on my working visit to Moscow and the results of the talks with certain leaders of the Soviet Union. I consider that this practice of informing the National Assembly on contacts made at a high level should be established as a normal parliamentary practice, and it gives me pleasure to respond to this invitation and the interest shown.

Before speaking on certain specific issues raised in the talks, permit me to make a number of general remarks connected with this visit and with our relations with the Soviet Union in general.

Following 10 November, and especially after the democratic processes in our country acquired scope and depth, we adopted a multidirectional foreign policy whose aim is for Bulgaria to have constructive relations, filled with trust and specific content, with all states upon which our normal national development, including our national security and the state of our economy, depends to a decisive extent. We have successfully freed the goals of our foreign relations, as well as many other goals of our sociopolitical life, from ideological biases and stereotypes, and placed the country's real national interests in the center of the country's foreign policy—and I consider this a result of a national consensus. We have primarily oriented foreign policy toward serving the democratic processes and democratic reforms in the country, toward successfully integrating Bulgaria and its economy in the global world economy, on the basis of radical market reforms. In doing this, we took into consideration the major changes which have ensued and continue to appear in the international situation—the end of the cold war, the overcoming, by quite sure steps, of the bloc confrontation in Europe and on a world scale—which create favorable conditions for strong and independent self-realization of all member states of the military-political alliances, not only the large and medium-sized ones, but also the small states.

We realize that a new approach toward our national security is now necessary. The strengthening of national security and guarantees in this field will be sought not only, and not to the same extent, in the military field, but first and foremost in the sphere of political dialogue and support for the new political processes in the continent, in our region, and in other regions of the world.

It seems to me that through these profound changes, both in our foreign policy and in the international conditions, prerequisites have been created, for the first time in many decades, for the fully-fledged and dynamic development of Bulgaria's relations both with the West, primarily with the EC countries, the other leading European countries, the United States, Japan, and with our traditional partners. In order not to spend a lot of time expounding on this topic, I would like merely to say that a year ago hardly anyone of us would have imagined that, at one and the same time, the president of the country, the head of state, would be carrying out an important visit, unprecedented for our foreign policy, to the United States, while at the exact same time the prime minister would be on a working visit to Moscow, also at the most responsible level. We now regard the incredible as something natural, something normal, and something good for Bulgaria, and in this coincidence there is something symbolic, something which confirms the exceptionally profound changes which have ensued in the world and in Bulgaria.

I would like to say that in my view there are three basic factors which determine the importance of the Soviet Union for us, and these are factors of permanent interest. These are, first and foremost, the economic imperative; the economic interest is real. We will expand, as quickly as possible, our relations with the other states, especially with the large economies of the developed West. We will increase the shares of these economies in the overall volume of our foreign economic contacts and ties. We will encourage investments by Western companies in our economy, and this is a subject which deserves to be examined separately in the near future.

However, we must be aware that all of this, however well we may carry it out, will not totally solve the problems of the Bulgarian economy. For example, it will not solve the problem of ensuring at least the minimum required amounts of industrial and energy raw materials and other materials and the most rational utilization of them. It will not replace the USSR market, which is, and which I hope will continue to be, an exceptional market with very high potential possibilities for our country. Thus our efforts in the area of economic cooperation must become ever more multidirectional, while taking into consideration certain lasting economic realities.

Second, there is the issue of our national security. Despite the new positive changes in the international situation we are at such an historical stage in which the country needs reliable allies. From this point of view, now and in the foreseeable future, the Soviet obligations toward Bulgaria as an ally—first of all on a bilateral basis, and perhaps to a certain degree in the future within the framework of the Warsaw Pact—the commitments in the sphere of the material-technical supplies for our armed forces, cooperation in the sphere of cadres, and so forth will have a decisive importance for our national security.

I think that none of us, regardless of our different political opinions and orientation, could underestimate the importance of such a factor as the traditions and mutual character of relations between our people and the peoples of the Soviet Union—and first of all the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR]—the cultural contacts, and the intellectual relations between us. I personally think that those are factors which do not have any ideological connotations, and which are permanent and lasting. Therefore every political force in present and future Bulgaria, under conditions of pluralism, a multiparty system, election of the executive and legislative powers, and so forth, must take them into consideration. This should be done because it corresponds to Bulgaria's lasting and long-range interests.

Now let me turn to the goals of my working visit. This visit was planned a long time ago, and coordinated with the country's president. It was postponed because of factors beyond our control, related to the parliamentary discussions of the fate of the Soviet Government. My visit had three basic goals:

The first goal was to clarify the immediate future of Bulgarian-Soviet economic relations under conditions of the transition toward market relations, a new system of payments, and a transition toward trade on the basis of world prices. In addition we intended to conduct an intensive and multidirectional discussion about the character of the Soviet Federation and the division of power or the prerogatives of power between the Union and the sovereign [as heard] republics that form it, against the background of the rapid process of decentralization of economic decisions and life in the USSR. All this created a number of specific problems in our relations, which must be resolved as soon as possible.

The second goal of the visit was to review certain current issues, related to the state of mutual supplies. You all know that there are problems and difficulties in this area, which will be exacerbated by the winter that soon will come. This involved first of all ensuring the energy and raw material deliveries to Bulgaria. For us it was important to clarify on what we could really rely before adopting measures for guaranteeing a relatively normal winter season and affording conditions for a more or less rhythmical production and supply for the population. By the way, those measures are now being discussed by the Council of Ministers, and I shall inform you separately about them when they are ready.

The third goal of my visit was related to better clarifying the future development of our direct relations and ties with the Soviet republics, first of all with the RSFSR, because it is perfectly clear that from now on relations will no longer be regulated and determined only at the level of the Union and the central power, but will have to develop at three mutually connected and relatively autonomous levels: the Union, the republics, and the separate economic agents and partners with our country.

Before I turn to each of those three topics I would like to say a few words about my meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev.

As you know, I handed Mikhail Gorbachev a message from our president, Mr. Zhelev, a message that was not of a formal nature. In his message the president presented his basic views on the further development of Bulgarian-USSR relations, stressing the importance he, personally, and the Bulgarian state leadership attribute to relations with the USSR as an exceptionally important factor for our state. He also pointed out the willingness of the Bulgarian leadership to do everything possible to maintain the level of those relations and afford conditions for their future development. The message also especially pointed out the traditional feelings of friendship and traditional relations of cooperation, which link the two states. It also expressed the readiness to adopt further measures to expand our relations with the USSR on a practical basis—national interests. Finally in his message our president invited President Gorbachev to visit Bulgaria. A similar invitation had also been extended by Mr. Zhelev's predecessor, and now it was confirmed by him. I would like to say immediately that Mr. Zhelyu Zhelev's invitation was accepted by Mikhail Gorbachev. For his part, he invited the president of our Republic to visit the USSR.

I think that it is important to note the following fact: Mikhail Gorbachev especially pointed out in our conversation, which was frank and cordial, and lasted for more than one hour, that despite the difficulties that the Soviet Union and the Soviet leadership are experiencing at present, and despite the fundamental changes in the forms and conditions of economic cooperation that are imminent, the Soviet Government supports maintaining friendship, cooperation, and its obligations as an ally vis-a-vis Bulgaria. Mikhail Gorbachev especially pointed out that the USSR will do everything possible, or rather maximally possible, as he put it, to preserve our relations from possible shocks related to the profound reforms that are taking place in each country and changes in bilateral relations. He also said that preconditions must be efficiently sought and created for the future development of our relations.

Another issue of fundamental importance that was discussed with Mikhail Gorbachev was the issue of the USSR's vital interest in the stability and maintenance of security in the Balkans and the Mediterranean. In this context he confirmed the Soviet commitments springing from the bilateral treaty between our countries.

Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, expressed in principle the same political position in our talk.

Now let me turn to the specific results.

We finally agreed that as of 1 January 1991 we shall base our countries' trade exchange on payments in convertible currency on the basis of world prices. I would like especially to point out that this represents a change in comparison with the previous agreement we signed in March 1990, when we agreed on a clearing method of settlements for the next three years, as a transition toward free payments in convertible currency.

This change, which—let me point out immediately—is unfavorable for our country, became necessary because of the categorical decision of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the subsequent presidential decrees according to which, in its relations with all states, the USSR is moving toward payments in foreign currency as part of the economic reform.

I would also like to say, as I have already briefed the mass media in a few interviews I have given in connection with my Moscow visit, that the transition to world prices means a serious additional burden for the Bulgarian economy.

In recent years, considering that CEMA prices were isolated from world prices, because of the application of unrealistic rates of exchange to the transferable ruble versus convertible currencies, and because of other factors that we could dare to call factors of an ideological nature, the Eastern European countries were actually subsidized in their trade with the Soviet Union by approximately 8-9 billion rubles [R]. Our share in the unequal exchange, in terms of both prices and structures, amounted to approximately R2 billion in 1989, but fluctuated between R1.5 and 2 billion.

To put it in other words, in the transition to world prices we should either reduce the resources received by the aforementioned amount, or the value of this amount, or we should increase the resources supplied by the same amount.

In addition to this change, which, I repeat, is inevitable, because it simply places our economic relations on a normal level and nothing more, this being the economic basis on which relations among all other countries in the world are implemented, we achieved a positive agreement, which introduces an element of stability into the transition of Bulgarian-Soviet economic relations to a market economy.

We agreed that both sides should pursue the line of balancing the part of mutual deliveries that is of particular importance for the Bulgarian and Soviet economies. On our side, of course, the greatest importance is attached to energy sources, such as oil, fuel oil, and gas, and some other basic raw materials, such as metals, timber, cotton, cellulose, paper, and aluminum. As for the Soviet Union, it is most interested in Bulgarian goods for the domestic market. This applies to light industry, the perfume and cosmetics industry, and some foodstuffs, which, however—and I must emphasize this fact—do not include basic foodstuffs that are in short supply. It rather applies to other goods, such as cigarettes, alcoholic beverages, canned food, and so forth. It applies also to a certain, but not too large amount of animal products that we are exclusively supplying in exchange for oil deliveries.

Regarding this part of our trade, which also includes some spare parts and other types of production of particular importance for both economies, we intend to pursue the line of balancing, and I would like to repeat this. It means that we can be assured to a definite extent about the reliability of the deliveries of goods agreed upon in advance on the basis of preliminary lists of goods.

Both governments, within the framework of their economic legislations and on the basis of the principles of economic reform, will assume mutual commitments for the reliable delivery of the respective resources and goods. I stress this because it is not so much the price of the resources, which is the same all over the world, as the reliability of our access to the resources and the stability of the markets for our products that are decisive for us.

As a matter of fact, we discussed and also agreed to activate the role of the banks in facilitating mutual payments in connection with the aforementioned sector of our mutual trade, namely that related to vitally important resources for both our economies. We took into account the fact that, considering the great shortage of convertible currency both in the Soviet Union and in Bulgaria, only the banks, with their own available instruments, could facilitate and assist the balancing of payments in the purpose of avoiding a sudden obstruction of our relations caused by the lack of the necessary convertible currency reserves.

We devoted particular attention to the examination of long-term agreements signed several years ago by our country for the delivery of gas from the Soviet Union in exchange for deliveries on credit from our country and in exchange for construction work on Soviet territory for the delivery of ferrous concentrate, for ferrous raw materials of various kinds, and for the delivery of timber from the Komi Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic [ASSR].

On all these three questions we achieved satisfactory results, in my view. This applies to free supplies of gas and to our participation in the Urengoy-western border of the Soviet Union project. The total volume of deliveries was confirmed, despite the recalculation of our accounts in convertible currency which is expected to take place as of 1 January 1991, and it was decided that a portion of our trade aktiv should be transformed into a credit for us so that we may fill the quota determined in advance for Bulgaria's participation and in this manner ensure the amounts of gas which we are expecting to receive within the next 20 years.

The same also applies to the Krivoy Rog agreement according to which we are expected to receive an annual amount of 600,000 tons of ferrous raw materials of a considerably higher quality and, in particular, with considerably better ecological parameters than our local Kremikovtsi ore.

We also agreed about extending the agreement on the supply of timber in the Komi ASSR, which is about to elapse at the end of 1990.

The agreement will be extended under the conditions of some amendments which are perfectly tolerable and acceptable to us. They chiefly apply to a better ecological method of timber exploitation and of exploiting local resources as a whole. I would like to admit most frankly that our participation in the Komi ASSR is not very favorably viewed and that the local population regards us an ecological disaster for the area. This is a factor that we cannot ignore, considering that the decisions about what resources we should exploit and how we should exploit them and who should benefit from this opportunity, are not adopted in Moscow in the first place, but are the prerogative of the local authorities. If we want to preserve this unique position, this unique opportunity, we must take into account the views of the local population and we should do everything possible, so that this population should regard us as partners, as long-term partners, and not as perpetrators of ecological disaster.

I had a very interesting talk with Nikolay Ryzhkov on mutual investments. We discussed the following idea: Several of our enterprises are closely linked to the Soviet market and to Soviet consumers, and vice versa: Numerous Bulgarian enterprises greatly depend on deliveries which we are currently receiving from the Soviet Union.

We reached an agreement in principle which should naturally be specified, not by the governments, but by the relevant companies and economic organizations. According to the agreement, Soviet enterprises should invest in our country, and we should invest in Soviet enterprises, as long as they have permanent interests in maintaining relations. This would considerably increase the extent of economic interest and would create prerequisites for improving the discipline of purchase and sale of commodities, and would contribute to guaranteeing a basis for our relations that should no longer depend so much on centralized decisions as it did in the past, or should not depend on them at all.

I could cite the following example in this respect: There is an opportunity for Soviet automobile plants, such as the Togliatti plants, and others, to participate with their investments, as share holders, in Bulgarian plants which supply goods and spare parts for domestic use, or for other Soviet automobile plants. This should guarantee the stability of mutual deliveries, without the necessity of agreements on a government level.

We are now examining various projects for the participation of Bulgarian enterprises in production plants which are producing raw materials of great importance for us, such as (?batches of goods), oil products, and other goods, the supply of which is vitally important to us.

Considerable attention was devoted to the subject of direct relations. In this respect I would like to point out that in the past, the central Soviet organs were rather jealous of all our efforts to establish meaningful direct relations with republics and with economic areas, or enterprises.

The tendency of comprehensive centralization and of controlling all decisions still existed in the recent past, and perhaps has not been totally overcome even today.

As to the government's stand and to Nikolay Ryzhkov's personal attitude, I must tell you that he fully supported the idea of our enterprises' active participation in the economic life of the Soviet republics and economic regions, in which we are interested, or to which we are still closely linked today. This stand is very important to us, considering that actions behind the back of the central government are likely to produce the opposite result and provoke counter-actions which might foil our intentions.

I would also like to stress one more fact. It is not related to large amounts of money or commodities, but it is nevertheless important. We agreed to establish two specialized foundations for encouraging relations between our country and the USSR. One is in the field of science and technology, the other in the sector of education, culture, and intellectual relations. Their purpose is to finance certain nonprofit activities which are not self-supporting. These activities are intellectual, namely not related to the material sphere. They are aimed at promoting future cooperation in the material sphere, but are not profitable per se.

I think that this is particularly important under the present circumstances, in the period of transition to convertible accounts and in facing the real danger that our traditional relations in spheres, such as science, culture, education, and technologies, might be suddenly interrupted as a result of missing financial resources.

We considered the talks on current deliveries as particularly important, of course. I would like to inform you on the specific results in this respect.

We reached an agreement that, by the end of 1990, oil deliveries should be at the level of approximately 600,000 tons monthly. This is less than the usual amounts we received directly from the Soviet Union and the amounts which Iraq delivered to the USSR in the past. Nevertheless, this is enough to cover the country's minimal needs, provided that we rationally exploit these resources. The question of increasing this amount was raised on our part, and the door was not closed on us, but I personally think that we should make our accounts on the basis of the aforementioned figure. Expressed in percentages this represents approximately 75 percent of the amounts we received in favorable years. The quota of oil fuel was fully confirmed, according to our trade protocol. This is very important considering the current acute shortage of fuel oil being. Some technical transportation problems are involved, but I hope that we will be able to cope with such problems in cooperation with the Soviet supplier. It would be unforgivable if we failed, so to speak, to extract the amounts for technical reasons.

The deliveries of coal for generating electricity were totally confirmed, which guarantees the normal functioning of some major power plants in our country, which applies in particular to the Varna Thermoelectric Power Plant and some other power plants in the Danube region. The amounts of electric power supplied by the Soviet Union, which are considerable, are also provided for. We agreed on additional Soviet assistance for putting into operation the Sixth Power Unit of the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant by the end of December 1990. The functioning of this power unit is of decisive importance for our survival during the winter season. If we succeed in ensuring this operation, by strictly observing security measures, and the instructions of the supplier and of the plant's the chief engineer, of course, we will be able to use a capacity of 500-750 Megawatts in the coldest winter months, and to guarantee minimal (?supplies).

I am pleased to tell the National Assembly deputies who are journalists and all newspaper men that we succeeded in solving the problem of delivering the last of the paper envisaged in the 1990 protocol, which permits us to keep up the current state of affairs, or to put it frankly, the current chaotic situation of paper supply for newspapers in our country. As of 1 January 1990, we should reflect how to establish order in this market, which is inevitable. I would like to stress the word, market, because the problem can only be solved through the methods of a market economy.

For the time being, I am not satisfied with the results of the talks related to the metal deliveries, to the supplies of cotton and timber. The difficulties in connection with these deliveries are expected to continue.

I would like to tell you straightforwardly that serious claims were also addressed against us. According to Soviet data, which approximately agrees with ours, we are lagging behind in the delivery of goods to the USSR worth approximately transferable R9 million because of difficulties and production irregularities in our economic and production sphere. This applies to goods worth approximately R500 million for the domestic market, which the Soviet Union urgently needs, as I already pointed out.

It is evident, that despite our own difficulties, we must devote additional efforts for improving and speeding up our exports. If not, some of our agreements may be jeopardized.

Let me say a few words about our talks with the RSFSR leadership. Unfortunately, the scheduled meeting with Boris Yeltsin did not take place, as he was under medical observation, for reasons which you all know about. He was even forced to postpone his visit to Rome and his meeting with the pope, which convinced us that it was not a case of diplomatic illness in my regard. Hence, a meeting was arranged with Ivan Silayev, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

I would like to inform you that, in our opinion, these relations, namely relations with the RSFSR, do not exhaust our relations with the Soviet Union, but nevertheless, they exert a decisive impact on them. As a matter of fact, 80 percent of our total exchange of goods with the Soviet Union is an exchange with the RSFSR. We agreed to sign a separate bilateral agreement between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the RSFSR by the beginning of November 1990.

Ivan Silayev will presumably pay a visit to Bulgaria on this occasion. This agreement is expected to establish legal prerequisites for direct agreements in trade exchange and in connection with other economic transactions, not only with the republic itself, but also with its major economic regions, with the chief suppliers of goods for Bulgaria, which in the case of some important resources represent 100 percent of the total deliveries of Soviet goods for Bulgaria. The agreement also provides opportunities for mutual discussions, for opening representations of Bulgarian companies and enterprises in the aforementioned areas and large industrial centers, and so forth.

Particular interest was manifested in cooperation in tourism. It means a purpose-oriented, specialized tourism, applying, in the first place, to workers and employees from the aforementioned regions and industrial centers which have close relations with Bulgaria, while our receipts from tourism will be invested in the common accounts covering expenditures for commodity deliveries from the Soviet Union. We also touched on several questions which I will not dwell upon on this occasion. I would like to mention only one question, which is of a humanitarian nature.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers chairman submitted the request that we should provide an opportunity for children from RSFSR areas which were affected by the Chernobyl accident to spend vacations in our country, not at our expense, but as paying guests, of course. This is provided for within the framework of the Soviet prophylactic health program for children and young people from the areas in question. I personally think that we should respond to this request, especially considering that it does not involve great numbers of children and would represent a gesture of solidarity and sympathy for the people of the areas affected by disaster.

Such opportunities exist according to a preliminary evaluation which we made in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Welfare, the Ministry of Public Health, and the Ministry of Education.

I would like to state as follows at the end of my report, esteemed ladies and gentlemen National Assembly deputies:

This was one of many visits to Moscow which I paid and I have dealt a great deal with Bulgarian-Soviet relations. I can compare past periods and recent periods.

Under the present circumstances, I am satisfied with my last visit. Naturally, and I specially point this out, I am talking of the current circumstances, which are complicated, involving a large dose of uncertainty, things are transient, and even some of my old friends and colleagues in the Soviet Government, in confidential talks, were incapable of accurately defining how the conditions of cooperation will develop from now on. This is so because very important decisions await the Soviet Government in connection with economic reform and the program which is in the final stage, and on the new union treaty.

This new union treaty will lead to profound reallocations in functions and prerogatives from the center to the bottom, but, despite this, and despite the conclusion that no magic solution, no solution in one stroke, is possible, I consider that the mere fact of holding such consultations at a high level, the content of the talks, the defining of the directions for our future joint work, and the accords reached provide grounds for a degree of moderate optimism—if one can put it like that. Of course, these contacts and dialogue must continue at the three levels of the union leadership, the republics, and the economic agents if we want to guarantee to the maximum possible extent our future positions in the Soviet Union and the Soviet economy.

I would like to inform you of one conclusion, namely that the changes in our cooperation will be truly profound indeed and, unfortunately, painful for us. It is a matter of doing none other than placing our relations on a new, unusual basis, of a kind in which any partner or state establishes links with other partners and states, that is, without any elements of sentimentality and paternalism where economic relations are concerned. This presupposes adapting to the new prices and adopting a brand new attitude to quality, because we must admit that our producers' attitude toward the quality of deliveries for the USSR, especially in recent years, was not serious. I am using this term in order to refrain from using a harsher one. This also presupposes readiness to clash with a cruel competition in the Soviet market. Despite all the difficulties in the Soviet economy, I must tell you that nobody has lost confidence in it. Unlike our economy, the Soviet economy is rich, has a great potential, and the world business community is sure that it is capable of overcoming its problems and having an important role in the world economy. For this reason the hotels in Moscow are full of businessmen, delegations, and bankers from all over the world. Active negotiations are being conducted on implementing great projects, and nobody should allow himself to underestimate this market. It would be fatal if we, Bulgarians, led by some inertia and hope that reality will not affect us, underestimated those facts. If we want to remain in this market we must be ready for a cruel struggle against exceptional competitors. The GDR and Czechoslovakia are no longer the leading competitors. Their places were taken by Japan, united Germany, the United States, France, South Korea, and so forth. Thus, we must be prepared for a great effort. This effort must be directed first of all toward ensuring resources, because nobody provides any resources without receiving other resources in exchange. I repeat, the changes in prices give us the following choice: Either we export more resources or we import less.

The new situation, created by the crisis in the Persian Gulf, aggravates the problem. Let us hope that things will be settled and that a solution will be found. However, if the oil price remains at the present level, we must find about $2.5 billion in order to pay for the decreased quantity of oil—for example at the level of about 9 million tonnes annually. In other words this amount is equal to or even higher than the total amount of convertible currency we receive from our exports to all countries with which we trade in such currency.

Let me cite another figure. Every month we pay about R60-70 million for the 600,000 tonnes of oil we receive. Yes, we still pay in rubles. If we were to purchase this oil on the world market every month we would have to allocate about $200 million just for oil. Thus, the problem of the amount of resources that Bulgaria could allocate in order to maintain the level of its supplies from the USSR, together with the problems of convertible foreign currency and the balance of payments with the West, acquires exceptional proportions in both its nature and complexity. Let me stress this without any embellishment, because the solution of this problem can only be sought in one direction—more production, more discipline, less disruption in the economy, and less waste of potential, energy, time, and labor for goals of secondary importance.

We must act to rapidly modernize the basic capacities that produce products that we export to the USSR so that their production could sell with equal success in the Soviet and Western markets. This is one of the first tasks in restructuring our economy which we must implement.

We must transfer a large part of the responsibility and initiative in maintaining active economic relations with the Soviet partners to our companies and enterprises that are interested in this. This should include a large part of the emerging private, shareholder, cooperative, and other enterprises. It is only through their initiative that we can preserve our position. It is impossible for the prime minister or his colleagues in the government to resolve this task at the central level any longer. I have already mentioned this subject several times, but, nevertheless, I would like to stress it again.

We will have to invest in our market positions in the USSR. We must invest in production enterprises and in creating a modern, active, and dynamically developing system for marketing and customer service. These are the facts that we must adopt as a line of behavior, as policy, and as trends of our economic enterprises' specific activity, if we want to remain in this market and if we want to continue to rely on the vital prerequisites of economic stability and development. It is in this spirit that we shall work after the adoption of the government general program by the Grand National Assembly and in connection with certain special steps and measures that will be adopted at government and business level, with the cooperation of all Bulgarian businessmen—regardless whether they belong to the private, state, or cooperative sector. I hope that we shall be supported in this endeavor by you, esteemed people's representatives, by our public, and, above all, by Bulgaria's business circles, because the manner in which the Bulgarian people will live in the next few years will largely depend on the successful solution of this and other priority tasks.

Thank you very much. [applause]

BSP Radicals Open Conference To Discuss Fate

AU2909171890 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Aglaya Shamlieva report on opening of national conference of the Movement for Radical Change in the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) in Sofia on 29 September—recorded]

[Text] There is great interest in the conference, because today the radicals may provide an answer to the question whether the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] will melt away. In my opinion, the issue of a split is not under discussion in the conference hall or in the lobbies. However, if you ask the delegates whether they are disillusioned, the answer is a categorical yes. Today the radicals have to answer the following questions: What did they gain and what did they lose at the 39th BSP Congress? Did a new party emerge from the congress, or did the idea of change become a smoke screen for the line of the neoconservatives?

These questions were addressed by Asen Zhablenski in his analysis and assessment of the 39th BSP Congress. With regard to some of the theses discussed in the political report at the congress, he said, we felt a little alarm over what was said and what was not mentioned at all. For me, he said, the political report was a highly intellectual attempt of great virtuosity to gloss over pressing problems and to combine incompatible things.

The congress held a debate on questions of the greatest importance for the party: the prevention of the crisis from becoming a disaster; unification in a new kind of party and society for radical change; and preservation of the socialist idea and its features.

Today, the survival of the BSP depends on its image. I will not repeat the words of Asen Zhablenski when he viewed the BSP's position in today's society, simply because I am afraid of being accused of spreading propaganda. His conclusion was that if this image is not overcome, the BSP will disappear from our political life.

As a medical doctor, Professor Zhablenski made the following diagnosis of the congress: It was characterized by exceptional [word indistinct]; manifestations of anti-intellectualism appeared; and the congress made preliminary preparations in the direction of unity and discrediting of the Movement for Radical Change. The key problem is whether real cadre renewal was achieved. The issue of the chairman of the party was directly connected with the BSP's image in international relations and with the possibilities for dialogue with the opposition.

The future of the radicals will be decided at today's conference. The question is whether the movement will dissolve itself, whether it will be preserved within the BSP as an internal party opposition, or whether it will become a movement outside the party with a wide social base. [passage indistinct]

Decision Made To Remain in BSP

AU2909172490 Sofia BTA in English 1645 GMT 29 Sep 90

["Radicals Stay on in BSP"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 29 Sep (BTA)—At its conference here today, the Movement for Radical Reform of the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] assessed the documents of the Socialists' 39th Congress as a tangible step forward along the road to a genuine reform of the party. The radicals accepted the proposal of the BSP Supreme Council to send their representatives to its meetings but decided that the movement should continue to exist within the BSP as an opposition to all conservative forces which stand in the way of a radical change of the party and of society.

The movement authorized the radical M.P.'s to unite and to acquire a clearcut identity within the BSP parliamentary faction. The radicals believe that their representatives in parliament should support any constructive motion, irrespective of which political force sponsors it.

The radicals want a realistic assessment of the ruling party's recent past so that the political responsibility of the BSP and of specific individuals for the current state of the country and of the socialist party could be identified. In their view, the state should take over that part of the BSP property which has not been acquired by the party's own contribution.

Mr. Yanaki Stoilov, the youngest member of the BSP parliamentary faction, was elected chairman of the movement.

The members of the Alternative Socialist Organization (a faction within the BSP) in Plovdiv alone declared that they were leaving the BSP.

BSP Control Commission Elects Rizov Chairman

AU2709160590 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 26 Sep 90 p 5

[Text] At its meeting held on the evening of 25 September, following a lively debate and discussion of the different candidates, the All-Party Control Commission of the Bulgarian Socialist Party elected Deyan Rizov as its chairman, with 45 votes cast for Rizov and two abstentions.

Deyan Ignatov Rizov was born on 15 September 1937 in the village of Plana near Sofia. He graduated with a degree in philosophy from Sofia University. At the moment he is chairman of the Executive Committee of the People's Council of Pancharevo Municipality in Sofia. He has a son and a daughter.

Stanchev: Ecoglasnost Will Stay in Opposition

AU2809143390 Sofia BTA in English 1335 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Sofia, 28 Sep (BTA)—"Ecoglasnost will stay in opposition," said Mr. Krasen Stanchev M.P. of the movement. "It will always be in opposition and will not take part in any government in whatever form," he emphasized.

Today many members of the Grand National Assembly belonging to different political factions wore on their lapels the Ecoglasnost emblem in solidarity with the national day of environment protest, declared by the movement to mark the third anniversary of the day when mothers in the city of Ruse, gassed by a Romanian chemical plant, staged a protest rally. Today Ecoglasnost put gas masks on the stone lions flanking Lions Bridge in Sofia and handed out "awards" to the institutes which take special credit for the ecological disaster in the country.

The Ecoglasnost movement emerged from the first spontaneous environment protests—"then they were a form of protest against the system as a whole," Mr. Stanchev said. Ecoglasnost deliberately insisted on being legitimate and on demolishing, in plain view of the whole public, the mechanism of the secret ecological decisions which the Bulgarian Government was taking at that time, explained Mr. Stanchev, one of the first Bulgarian dissidents. He started his political career as an Ecoglasnost activist and two years later he is an M.P. and chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Environmental Protection.

The most prominent actions of Ecoglasnost—and they were also the most prominent actions of the opposition before the ouster of Todor Zhivkov—were the sign-in campaign in a small park in Sofia for which the activists got roughed up by the police and a procession on November 3, 1989, when the movement submitted to the then National Assembly a petition on the construction of two dams.

At that time the movement had 100 members. In January 1990 it lost count of its membership after the list reached 36,000. At present the movement has no hierarchical structures. Its provincial organisations, which are particularly keen on their autonomy, still have among their members Socialists (former Communists). According to Mr. Stanchev, however, the ecologist movement in Bulgaria is at a low point now irrespective of the intensive talk of ecology. Bulgarians are now obsessed with the economic crisis.

The 17 Ecoglasnost M.P.'s will form a faction of their own immediately after parliament adopts its rules of procedure, Mr. Stanchev said. They insist on an independent "colour" in parliament. All other parties and organizations in the Union of Democratic Forces parliamentary faction will probably do the same.

Mr. Stanchev says that the split into two groups poses the greatest problem to the Grand National Assembly standing Committee on Environmental Protection. Some of its members tend to go to extremes in their concern for public health and nature. Others are willing to compromise due to their commitment to economic structures. "This split is not partisan but may give the committee a lot of trouble. Apart from day-to-day ecological matters, it now works on an environment policy bill," Mr. Stanchev said.

Ethnic Turk Movement States Position in Assembly

AU2809133290 Sofia BTA in English 1218 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Sofia, 28 Sep (BTA)—"We are for the unity of the Bulgarian people and the territorial integrity of Bulgaria," the spokesman for the Movement for Rights and Freedoms (MRF) [DPS] (of the ethnic Turks), Mr. Yunal Lyutfiev, declared in the Bulgarian parliament today. His statement was prompted by yesterday's accusations, which the sole parliamentary representative of the Fatherland Party of Labour, Mr. Dimitur Arnaudov, made during the debates on parliamentary regulations when discussing the way in which the parliamentary factions should be formed. According to both alternative variants between which the M.P.'s would have to choose, the representatives of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms are granted the right to form a faction, which until now was disputed by Mr. Arnaudov only.

Mr. Lyutfiev underlined that the MRF condemns the manifestations of Turkish nationalism and Pan-Turkism as well the manifestations of Bulgarian chauvinism.

The MRF's primary natural demand is to restore the Turkish minority to its religious and cultural rights, Mr. Lyutfiev pointed out. But it is expressly stated in the MRF programme declaration that the movements stands for the integrity of Bulgaria and the unity of the Bulgarian nation. Mr. Lyutfiev considers that the MRF parliamentary group is mature and constructive—the MRF did not answer with counter-strikes to the sit-in strikes declared in the summer by the National Committee for the Protection of National Interests, when the national socialists occupied administrative and state buildings in the regions populated by compact masses of Bulgarian Turks.

Local Public Prosecutors Leave Political Parties

AU2809122590 Sofia BTA in English 1048 GMT 28 Sep 90

["Public Prosecutors Discontinue Membership in Political Parties"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 28 Sep (BTA)—"At the present moment party affiliations hinder the free and independent performance of the duties of the public prosecutors which presuppose to obey the law and to defend all citizens' interests irrespective of their social and ethnical belonging and party affiliation," it is said in the declaration made by six district and regional public prosecutors in Mikhaylovgrad (northern Bulgaria). Five of them are members of the Bulgarian Socialist Party and one—of the Bulgarian Social Democratic Party. Putting forward the arguments for the decision to discontinue their party membership, they point out that by this act they place their civil and professional duty above their political persuasions and party affiliation. The application of the above-party principle will create the conditions for objectivity and unbiasedness and for reducing any ideological and political influence on the legal defence of people's rights to a minimum, the Mikhaylovgrad public prosecutors state in the declaration addressed to the Grand National Assembly, the president, the prosecutor general, the political forces in the country and to the public.

Ruse Citizens Rally, Mark Ecological Movement Day

AU2809190390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Marking the Day of National Ecological Protest, a religious ceremony took place this evening on Freedom Square in Ruse, the site of the first public protest demonstration prior to 10 November 1989 in our country, held three years ago. At the call of the Ruse Ecoglasnost Movement, numerous Ruse citizens gathered in the city and expressed their request that Ruse's ecological problems which have been affecting the city for almost 10 years should be promptly resolved.

The silent vigil observed by the people holding candles lasted for nearly an hour. Rumyan Ganchev, leader of the Ruse Ecoglasnost movement, declared that the movement is defending and expanding its program and shall not stop its actions as long as the Ruse citizens cannot live in peace without being afraid for their children's health and lives.

Republican Party News Conference Creates 'Fuss'

LD2709204190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Journalists have already become used to the fact that news conferences given by the chairman of the Association for the Republic-Republican Party of Czechoslovakia are sometimes a bit abominable. Today Dr. Miroslav Sladek did not disappoint them. Already the subject of the press conference—Republicans: Creators of Domestic and Foreign Policy—provoked a fuss in Obecni House in Prague.

So far as foreign policy is concerned, the association wants to work for the annexation of Ukrainian Russia by Czechoslovakia. The Association for the Republic also feels unhappy that we joined the international activities against Iraq quite late and that we are training only a small unit. Miroslav Sladek believes that at a time when, in his view, everything is already decided, it is only a gesture.

The Republicans' domestic policy is based on pushing through consistent privatization, which is one of very few issues in which this party agrees with the Civic Forum. Otherwise Miroslav Sladek tried to show direct links between the Civic Forum—Charter 77 in the past—and top officials of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, the State Security Corps, and the KGB.

Civic Forum Leader Rejects Student Demands

LD2809191290 Prague CTK in English 1540 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 28 (CTK)—The statement made yesterday by Miroslav Sladek, chairman of the association of the Republican Party of Czechoslovakia, is a nonsense which offends this state, representatives of the Civic Forum Coordinating Centre said at their press conference here today.

Sladek claimed yesterday that the Civic Forum concept had been prepared six months before November 17, 1989 in cooperation with Rudolf Hegenbart, former head of a department of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee.

The Civic Forum representatives dealt also with the legislative measure of the Federal Assembly (parliament) on the exchange of former nomenclature cadres. They said that it is not yet clear how to realize the exchange of leading functionaries above all at lower levels. The best experts with high moral standards must be installed to the leading posts, they stressed.

Answering whether the Civic Forum agrees with students who have recently called for the resignation of Premier Marian Calfa and Defence Minister Miroslav Vacek, they said that the Civic Forum does not support these demands and rejects them resolutely.

Army Orders of 17 November '89 To Be Investigated

AU2709144290 Prague SVOBODNE SLOVO in Czech 19 Sep 90 p 1

[CTK report: "An Investigating Commission"]

[Text] Prague—A CTK reporter obtained information in the CSFR President's Office about the activity of the commission, the chairmanship of which CSFR President V. Havel entrusted to J. Krizan, one of his advisers, on 10 September this year. The commission's task is to investigate what orders were given within the Army around 17 November 1989. The commission is made up of two members of the Federal Assembly Defense and Security Committee, two members of the Military Revival Association, two members of the CSFR Ministry of Defense Inspectorate, two officials from the President's Office, and one official from the Military Office of the President. The establishment of the commission was not initiated by Colonel Cerovsky and his membership in it was never foreseen—if for no other reason than that all the reports about the November orders that Mr. Cerovsky provided to the press were very inaccurate and even misleading. A report summarizing the results of the investigation will be issued after the investigation is over.

Republican Leader Comments on Events

LD2709223690 Prague CTK in English 2043 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 27 (CTK)—Chairman of the Association for the Republic-Republican Party of Czechoslovakia Miroslav Sladek told newsmen today that the November 17 events are "rather suspicious" and that the political coup had been prepared for a long time since June 1988.

He pointed out that the aim of the November 17, 1989 coup was to "preserve socialism but under another name and with certain reforms." Political power has been formally handed over into the hands of people "acceptable for the public but at the same time closely linked with the Communist ideology and the Communist Party."

According to Sladek, the course of the coup was chosen in such a way to ensure the impunity of the former Communist leaders and enable them keep their economic power. Preparations for privatization testify to this, he said.

Referring to the present political situation in Czechoslovakia, Sladek said that a group of persons who are practically "above the law" is in power. The economic reform is a copy of Lenin's NEP (New Economy Policy) which was to save socialism in Bolshevik Russia. "It is not at all a reform which could lead Czechoslovakia quickly to the market economy," Sladek said.

Trade Union Leader Warns of 'Social Unrest'

LD2709172890 Prague CTK in English 1543 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 27 (CTK)—Chairman of the biggest Czechoslovak trade union organization Roman Kovac told newsmen here today that a threat of serious social unrest exists in Czechoslovakia as the economic reform starts to be applied ignoring the objections of the Czech and the Slovak Confederation of Trade Unions.

The trade unions have recently criticized mainly social impact of the economic reform of which those who had prepared it were not fully aware. There was also a negative stance by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs on political strike to be fixed firmly in a law that aroused negative response in the trade unions.

Mr. Kovac criticized the Czechoslovak Government which has so far refused to hold direct talks on various bills and socioeconomic measures with the trade unions or submitted them incomplete and with delays to the trade unions and the public. In his opinion, the Federal Government and some political parties consider the trade unions in Czechoslovakia weak. The government approach, however, should change in the coming days as many laws (e.g. a law on collective negotiations and collective agreement regulating relations between employers and employees) must be passed by the end of this year. According to Mr. Kovac, the Czechoslovak Government will be in a hurry and will have to open a direct dialogue with the trade unions in order to achieve results acceptable for all.

Kovac characterized the Czech and the Slovak Confederation of Trade Unions as not connected with any concrete party but not apolitical. In the future trade unions should support the trade union policy of political parties, he said, adding that the Czech and the Slovak Confederation of Trade Unions puts the greatest emphasis on talks and considers strike an inevitable extremity.

The confederation, which was set up last March and which associates more than 60 trade unions with some 6.5 million members, supports the political, economic and social changes in Czechoslovakia and aims mainly at installing a social market society and establishing a social state.

Minister Sees Need for 'Active' Employment Policy

LD2809161190 Prague CTK in English 1332 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 28 (CTK)—Purposeful and effective employment and coping with the risk of inflation and decline in the real value of work and social incomes are major social aspects of the Czechoslovak economic reform, Czechoslovak Labour and Social Affairs Minister Petr Miller told journalists here today.

He stressed that the Czechoslovak Government's social program places emphasis on an active policy of employment which would help create new job opportunities, requalification of people and supporting them in periods of temporary unemployment, and setting up of institutions helping the jobless find work.

Petr Miller said that a total of 27,460 citizens are now seeking jobs and 12,753 of them are on the dole. Speaking about requalification programs, he said that they are run thus far only within particular enterprises.

The minister said that "the government fully accept the state's responsibility for the incomes, health, pensions and housing of its citizens. But it renounces the state monopoly on social welfare which has failed. Therefore, the government's social program aims at transformation of what it inherited from the previous (communist) regime in the social sphere and at building an effective network of social institutions to allay the consequences of the coming transitional period (towards market economy)".

Stressing that the success of the economic reform is conditioned by social calm, the minister pointed to the importance of consensus in society as a whole. Therefore the government is conducting talks with trade and employers' unions on the establishment of a council of economic and social accord attached to the Czechoslovak Government.

However, Petr Miller rejected social demagogy saying that "every day we are exposed to the pressure of demands which cannot be met, which run counter to the philosophy of the economic reform, and for which this society does not have necessary resources."

Banking Association Constituted in Prague

AU2609150290 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 18 Sep 90 p 2

[CTK report: "A Banking Association"]

[Text] A meeting took place in Prague of the leading representatives of the key Czechoslovak commercial banks, saving banks, and insurance companies. The purpose for the meeting was particularly the protection of common interests and coordination of some operations. The participants of the meeting founded a Banking Association, which intends to remove the legislative and economic hindrances in the development of banks, and assist thereby in the fastest development of their business. In no way does the foundation of the Banking Association as an interest group mean a formation of some kind of a regulating body, and it does not preclude business competition among the members. The participants also agreed on entering into contact with similar associations abroad. The membership in the new association is not closed and any newly established financial institution may join. Jiri Kunert, general director of the Zivnostenska Bank, became the first president of the association.

Calfa Interviewed on Economic Reform Path

LD2809222290 Prague Television Service in Czech 1750 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Interview with Federal Premier Marian Calfa by unidentified correspondent on 28 September; place not given—live or recorded; Calfa speaks in Slovak]

[Text] [Correspondent] Mr. Premier, yesterday the governments jointly agreed on a bill which, if passed by parliament, will mean the first important step on the path of economic reform. What other measures does the government have in hand to follow up that decision?

[Calfa] I would like to say that decisions which were revolutionary in their essence were, indeed, drawn up yesterday to be submitted to the Federal Assembly, by which we are transferring, or are intending to turn over, production businesses, retail and service businesses, and ophthalmic opticians' practices to private hands. This is a first measure, others are to follow. In the next two weeks the government will approve the so-called transformation law; this is a law which will make it possible to transfer property, that is, state property, in other spheres too, in essence throughout the production sector. In addition we also want to attend to matters of price-setting. From 1 January 1991, as we know, we will be shifting to entirely new conditions. We want to attend to the overall concept for employment in the next few years, the whole system of agencies which will deal with employment. We also want to attend to matters of a tough clampdown on illegal money-changing and all its ramifications in terms of the penal, hard-currency and banking spheres. We are going to discuss a specific concept for the operation of our agriculture and food industry complex. Last but not least, we are going to attend to matters of establishing a new structure for the bodies we need for economic reform, that is, price monitoring bodies, antimonopoly bodies, in other words bodies to deal with economic competition, and so forth. So there is rather a lot.

[Correspondent] These are all what I would call methodical problems, in fact, associated with the progress of economic reform. The question I would like to ask you is this: How long is all this going to take to implement? What is your view of the actual state of our economy?

[Calfa] I would like to make the fundamental point that our state's economic situation is exceptionally serious. This is due partly to external influences, and partly to internal ones. The most significant external influences which are making our situation worse are the situation in the Soviet Union, particularly its attitude toward supplies of oil and other raw materials to Czechoslovakia, both for this year and the years to come. Our predicament is also due to what amounts to the loss of the GDR market and the opportunities for cooperation throughout that region. It is also due to a certain loss of financial markets. In other words the world, or at least the financial world, has been taking rather a wary view of Czechoslovakia recently. It is also due, understandably, to the situation in the Persian Gulf—the conflict with Iraq, the embargo against it, and this is having extremely serious repercussions for our foreign trade. We are working with a figure representing a loss of about $1 billion.

As far as domestic conditions are concerned, it is caused above all by the fact that in our many enterprises production fell extraordinarily, partly as a consequence of those external influences, partly as a consequence of declining discipline, both technological and work discipline, and of a decision about ending some work programs, as well as the consequence of the fact that a number of enterprises still have not reached an entirely specific idea about their new production programs in the new economic conditions.

This all adds up to such a serious situation that it is impossible to rule out that in the near future we will have to form a new body in the form of some sort of a crisis staff for some regions and undertake a really thorough discussion about what actions to take.

[Correspondent] As I listen to you, together with the television viewers, one very unpleasant question emerges. All this work now done by the government is being done in the conditions which are not in fact the most favorable. I mean permanent threats of strike alerts, threats of general strike, calls for various personnel changes, political demands, and all those issues that have recently surrounded us. How does the government in fact in this situation manage to tackle all those practical issues?

[Calfa] I have to say that the conditions for government's work are worsening. I would literally say that it is difficult for the government to work properly. It is difficult because recently it has been very difficult for the government to find some kind of a positive attitude, efforts to tackle the problems in a positive way, especially in the sphere of our political life.

I am not happy to say this, but recently such views have emerged that the consequences of their implementation would mean a considerable destruction of some elements of economic life of Czechoslovakia. They have emerged at different levels, originating in various movements both in our political life and in other spheres, in citizens groups, and not the least in some trade union structures. Thus the ideas that are expressed cannot be implemented, I tell you.

Therefore the government will continue to make exceptional efforts—I must say that it will not give in to such pressures—to formulate a positive program for Czechoslovakia's development.

We must realize that Czechoslovakia has 15.5 million people. These people live in a certain setting; they grew up in it; they work in it; they live in it. Undoubtedly they see it as their home and they want to continue living in it, so we cannot work with destruction, we must work with positive programs. The government's job therefore is to ensure that in this setting—one which is full of conflicts for the government's work, and even difficult and ill- disposed—it creates something; it creates a new and positive economic program; it tries to put it into effect; and it achieves the conditions for ensuring that democratic development is maintained in Czechoslovakia. This is no easy matter, because some of the demands are not democratic. So all of this together in the government's work means a positive program in fact, a definite conviction on the part of all the government's members that this is precisely the way in which they should act, and this will therefore be visible in the thrust of the government's work in the future.

[Correspondent] One last question, if I may. Do you believe, Mr. Premier, that we have our values in quite the right order or the right priority in our society at the present time, and what priority do you give to matters?

[Calfa] I have already partly answered this question in my preceding comments. But I must say that now the clear priority is economic, the need to maintain the pace of Czechoslovakia's economic development, to keep the economy moving, to keep services operating and to keep production going. Because if we do not manage that, then all the other spheres, of public life, political life, cultural life and so forth, will be directly affected by that failure, although I do not want to say that they will directly suffer. So the clear priority in our work is to run this state in a positive way, to try to put these economic measures into practice in a positive way, and to do everything to ensure that we do not let ourselves be diverted from this path and this determination in any way, by any influence, or by any pressure from any quarter.

[Correspondent] Thank you for the interview.

Langos Informs Deputies of Crime Activity

AU2809082990 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 20 Sep 90 pp 1, 8

["ha,st"-signed report: "Unprecedented Crime Rate Growth"]

[Text] The report on the security situation in the CSFR and governmental draft laws which make changes to the previously strongly centralized security apparatus, to the concept of legal procedures when prosecuting some criminal acts and infractions, and to the protection of state secrets were the main issues on the agenda of yesterday's sixth joint meeting of the CSFR Federal Assembly Chamber of People and the Chamber of Nations. Federal Interior Minister Jan Langos provided the deputies with sad and alarming data. His speech also contained plans worked out for the transformation of his ministerial department under the new social conditions.

As of 1 September a total of 189 murders, 2,758 robberies, 8,310 cases of inflicting injuries, and 822 attacks against Public Security Corps members were recorded. Terrorist attacks or threats of such attacks are growing exponentially. The so-called exceptional events in the economic sphere are known to everyone. Crimes against property account for approximately 70 percent of the crime rate and are the most critical point in the evaluation of the security situation and effectiveness of police work. Material damages caused by crimes against property during the first eight months of this year are estimated at more than 855 million korunas, which is an increase of 536 million korunas as compared to the same period of the last year. In 1990, only 28 percent of break-ins into apartments, 26 percent of the so-called small thefts, and less than half of motor vehicle thefts have been cleared up so far. In the area of economic crime—smuggling, bribery, and violations of the foreign currency legislation—the number of solved cases dropped by one-half as compared to 1989. A significant deterioration has also been recorded in the area of drug abuse. Only 233 cases have been solved so far. Drug traffickers and dealers are becoming more active. Their growing contacts with international criminal organizations are also dangerous. In this connection, as of 1 August 1990, special organizations have been founded—the department for combating international crime and the department for cooperation with Interpol.

Minister Jan Langos also spoke about the irreplaceable functions of the Federal Ministry of the Interior. He said that safeguarding the protection of territorial integrity and the inviolability of the state was an especially important function. He mentioned the change made to the status of the border guards who now fulfill exclusively the role of border protection and not of territorial defense. The principal intent was to move them from the military protection of state borders to professional police protection. Based on international agreements, the concept of the protection of diplomatic missions in the CSFR is also being be re-evaluated.

Foreign as well as domestic intelligence aimed at the protection of state interests in the areas of security, international policy, the economy, and science is a particular problem. The transformation of these services to make them correspond to the conditions in a democratic state is a difficult and sensitive process. The objective is the destruction of the monopoly and the excessive concentration of the means of power in one center, while reinforcing social and civil control structures. The pertinent legislative documents are being worked out. In both components the screening of workers has been finished. Special attention was paid to the elimination of the links to the former structures of the totalitarian power. Another 36 senior officials in the Federal Ministry of the Interior's sector have been recalled and 42 newly appointed since the elections. In view of the organizational changes, some positions will not be filled.

Jan Langos then returned to the results of the screening commissions. A total of 13,248 National Security Corps members and professional soldiers have undergone screenings in the Federal Ministry of Interior's so-called central and regional departments. Of this number, the civic commissions did not recommend 1,853 individuals. A total of 712 members left for civilian jobs and an additional 153 retired upon their own request. A total of 2,764 people have already left the ministerial sector. Beside this, 1,181 people have been discharged as a result of reorganization, despite the fact that screening commissions labelled them as fit for further service. In view of the fact that this discharge was unlawful, they had to be rehired.

Jan Langos said that he considered the formulation of a new security doctrine in cooperation with the republican ministries of the interior to be the crucial prerequisite for a genuine transformation of the department. It should define, above all, what poses a real danger to the state, what specific interests the ministerial department should protect, and what means to use for this. From the Federal Government's security policy and from the new law on the spheres of competence it must clearly follow in what sort of activity the Federal Ministry of the Interior is to engage and what organs it needs for this activity. These steps should have been taken a long time ago, before the reorganization took place. As a result, some changes were made chaotically, some were only formal ones.

Minister Jan Langos also stressed the need for new legislative norms. He considers the laws on the police corps, on the federal service for the protection of the Constitution and the utilization of intelligence facilities, on the protection of state borders and the border police, and on the terms of employment in the security service, corps, and departments—the legislative proposals of which are under preparation by his ministerial department—to be of the greatest importance.

In the reports of the Security and Defense Committees of the Chamber of Nations and the Chamber of People, deputies Ladislav Lis and Eduard Simko pointed out the danger ensuing from the fact that during the last eight months principal questions regarding security were not solved. It is impossible to content oneself with the statement that in the transition from totalitarianism to democracy these problems are objective phenomena. Citizens are willing to accept an even lower standard of living, but not the fact that the state power and the police, which are paid by them, are unable to protect their security and property. It is necessary to build, as soon as possible, an impartial, effective, and relatively inexpensive security apparatus. The number of police and their technological equipment must be reinforced immediately. Also, the cleansing of the security apparatus, which should be done under supervision, must be solved in a consistent manner.

The debate which followed reflected these conclusions. Deputies pointed to cosmetic changes in the replacement of personnel, to the danger that former State Security members may become active, and to the fact that almost none of them had to answer for his crimes in court. They demanded a more profound explanation of the roots of the criminal behavior—the rate of which is unprecedented in our country—and concentrated also on the social aspect of this phenomenon.

Deputy Ladislav Vrchovsky, for example, stressed that Prague, Kosice, Plzen, and Ostrava in particular will require a special solution. He demanded providing expeditious allocation of funds for security forces and proposed the possibility of voluntary contributions by citizens for establishing local police. The situation is desperate in other cities as well. As Deputy Vladislav Valtr noted, in Havirov, not only women, but also men, are afraid to walk in the streets in the evening. Romany gangs, which terrorize citizens, have technical equipment that the police can only dream about. In this situation it is absurd to demand 1 billion korunas for new uniforms. The citizens' disinterest in work in the police corps, the prosecutor's office, and courts was also discussed. In Ostrava, for example, the situation is so critical that there is one policeman per 35 square km.

Deputies who demanded that the cleansing of the security apparatus continue, especially of the State Security, were supported by a speech delivered by Alexander Dubcek.

Before the morning debate about J. Langos' report began, Deputy Libor Kostya submitted an interpellation. He drew attention to an announcement and a cartoon published in yesterday's issue of ANNONCE, which, in his opinion, directly incite terrorism and defame the president of the republic. There were many more interpellations, questions, and suggestions addressed to the Federal Ministry of the Interior. In his reply, J. Langos, first and foremost, explained that most of them did not pertain to his ministry, since the Public Security Corps service falls fully within the jurisdiction of the republican ministers. Not even the investigation into criminal activity belongs to the federal level any longer. He asked deputies to deliver their questions to him in writing, since some of them require detailed answers. Lubomir Veleta, first deputy of the CSFR general prosecutor, reacted to the remarks related to the prosecutor's office. He reported that the investigation concerning the entry of the allies' troops into Czechoslovakia has not been completed yet, and he stressed that the general prosecutor's office is also processing all other suggestions made by citizens. He will also respond to L. Kostya's piece of information.

Deputies acknowledged J. Langos' report with the proviso that, among other things, the federal government will present to the Federal Assembly by 9 October this year a complete concept of security policy and the principles of a security doctrine.

Political Prisoners' Rehabilitation Called For

LD2709210390 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] The Presidium of the Czech National Council issued a statement on court rehabilitations today.

It notes that an overwhelming majority of the political prisoners of the 1950's are still living on the periphery of our society without official legal and moral satisfaction, and depending on pensions bordering on the poverty line.

It called on the employees of our jursidiction to give priority in dealing with rehabilitations to the sentences issued in the period from 1948, and not those issued later on.

At the same time it recommended an increase in the number of rehabilitation senates.

Economic Report Shows Productivity Still Declining

AU2809085690 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 20 Sep 90 p 2

["vl"-signed report: "Still Below Last Year's Level"]

[Text] According to preliminary data from the Federal Statistical Office, the drop in industrial production and in civil engineering in particular continued in August. Gross industrial production for the last month remained 4.6 percent below the level of last August. For the entire first eight months of this year this represents a drop of 3.2 percent. At the same time, average daily production dropped by only 1.3 percent, since there were three working days less in the Czech Republic and two less in Slovakia since the beginning of the year.

The lower volume of gross production since the beginning of this year pertains mainly to coal mining (-10 percent), the Czech Republic's uranium industry (-8.8 percent); the metallurgy and machine building and electrical engineering complex (-3.5 percent), and chemistry and crude oil processing (-7.3 percent). The production of power, gas, and heat is slightly under last year's level, due, among other things, to this year's mild winter.

On the other hand, an increase was recorded in the glass, ceramics, and china industry (1.9 percent since the beginning of the year), the wood processing industry (1.5 percent), the printing industry (6.9 percent), the paper and pulp industry (0.6 percent), and production of medical supplies (7.1 percent).

The number of workers was 3.1 percent smaller in August as compared to August last year. Labor productivity was, according to preliminary calculations, 1.5 percent lower than in August last year and 0.9 percent lower since the beginning of the year as compared with the same period of last year.

The volume of construction work carried out by the construction enterprises' own workers was 8.4 percent lower as compared to the period of January to August last year, average daily building production was 7.1 percent lower. The outflow of workers from civil engineering continued: Their number fell by 5.6 percent, and labor productivity per worker was 2.9 percent lower than during the period of January to August last year.

In contrast to the development of the preceding months, the procurement of slaughter animals dropped in August (by 7.8 percent, i.e., by 11,200 tonnes). Also the production of milk remained, in August as well as since the beginning of the year, under last year's level. This level has been surpassed only in the procurement of slaughter poultry and eggs.

The volume of transportation reflects the developments in production. The volume of freight railway transportation was ten percent lower for the first eight months despite a substantial increase in the transportation of ores last month (by 8.0 percent). As compared to the previous year, the greatest drop can be seen in the transport of building material (22.1 percent compared to last August and 11.9 percent compared to last year) and solid fuels. Since the beginning of the year the retail trade turnover of the main retailing systems reached 190.5 billion korunas, which is 6.5 percent more than in the same period last year. From the regional point of view, an above average growth in retail trade turnover, as compared to the period of January to August, can be seen in Bratislava (8.7 percent), South Bohemia and West Slovakia regions (8.0 percent), Prague (7.5 percent) and South Moravia region (7.0 percent). The lowest trade turnover was recorded in the North Bohemia region (4.0 percent).

Czech Ministry of Agriculture Reorganized

AU2809093990 Prague ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY in Czech 18 Sep 90 p 1

["sp"-signed report: "New Management Structure in the Ministry of Agriculture"]

[Excerpt] Prague—As of yesterday, a new management structure was announced in the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic. In the future, the management will have a branch-interdepartmental character with strong emphasis on the application of management skills. Deputy ministers were confirmed in their posts and their jurisdictions and responsibilities were divided and specified.

The management flowchart is as follows: Minister (B. Kubat) and his secretariat will have the secretariat's complete regular agenda. The competence of the first deputy (S. Prochazka) includes, among other things, economic strategy, economy and finance, the founding of enterprises, denationalization, and large privatization. The deputy for agricultural production (J. Kolarik) will also be responsible for the care of the land, the environment, regional relations, etc. The next section is food production and nutritional policy, including investments, mechanical equipment, technoloogy, and power (deputy not appointed as yet). The ecologization of agriculture, alternative ways of land management, but also the legal and legislative area, research, and education will be dealt with by the divisions managed by Deputy R. Bartak. Finally, the last section (not in significance) of the management structure of the ministry is the sector of forestry policy and forestry economy including economy and trade (headed by Deputy P. Rybnicek). [passage omitted]

Slovak Government 18 Sep Session Reported

AU2809093690 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 19 Sep 90 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed report: "The Slovak Republic Government Met; They Approved Employment Policy"]

[Text] Bratislava—The Slovak Republic Government met yesterday in Bratislava. It acknowledged CSFR Government Resolution No. 560/1990, whereby in the Federal Government budget for 1990 the government approved the release of funds from its budgetary reserve. The funds in the amount of 150 million korunas are to be used to cover, in korunas, the cost of repairing the damages to real as well as movable property assumed from the Soviet troops and to cover the cost of the hydrological survey and decontamination of the polluted soil. The Slovak Republic Government requests that the CSFR Government reassess the ratio for dividing this sum between the Slovak and the Czech Republics. The 35 million korunas allotted to them by the Federal Government is not sufficient even for paying the already established damages, which in Slovakia represent 50 million korunas.

The Slovak Republic Government acknowledged a report on the elaboration of its policies on health care, social security, education, youth and sport, culture, mass media, churches, and ethnic minority problems.

It entrusted Stanislav Novak, minister of labor and social affairs, with the task of effectively combining, within the framework of the social policy concept, the economic reform with a system of social measures so as to best minimize the expected social tension.

It also discussed the Slovak National Council bill on the state administration territorial organization. After the discussion, it postponed the approval and assigned the ministers with discussing some as yet unsettled questions regarding the operation of the state administration in the proposed district and municipal offices.

It approved the earlier discussed Slovak National Council bill submitted to the government on the competence of the Slovak Republic bodies in implementation of the employment policy.

Democratic Party Congress Split Imminent

LD2709201690 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1630 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Another party split appears to be on the horizon. Following the emergence of two currents of opinion in the Communist Party, news has also become public about conflicts in the Democratic Party, which is also more or less split into two wings at the moment. The Democratic Party's congress which convenes on 29 September in Zilina will evidently be extremely interesting. Representatives of the Bratislava City Committee of the Democratic Party held a press conference late this afternoon. A short while ago our editor, Igor Matlon, telephoned in this report:

[Matlon] Slovak National Council Deputy Chairman Olga Keltosova, who is a member of the Democratic Party, and other representatives briefed journalists about the current rift in their party. This is primarily a matter of discord between the new members who have joined the party since last December—they account for as much as nine-tenths of the membership—and the original party members, in particular the current leadership. She said that it is necessary to make way for new people, which is something the current leadership refuses to take on board. The leadership, they said, ought to have resigned straight after the election failure in which the Democrats won only 4.4 percent of the votes. As far as the current chairman, Dr. Kvetko, is concerned, the Democrats do not want him to disappear completely from the political scene, but to continue in the capacity of honorary chairman, for example, to give assistance in the form of fatherly advice to his younger colleagues in their work.

The Democratic Party representatives stressed that they wish to build a party of the political center, not static but dynamic, which is more nationally oriented than to date and more liberal. On a possible split in the party, they hope that by common consensus at the congress they will be able to agree jointly on the further course of action. It must be pointed out, however, that the press conference was attended only by representatives of—if we can call it that—the reform-minded national-liberal current in the party.

Slovak Magyar Leader Criticizes Premier

LD2709160990 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] [Announcer] According to Miklos Durai, leader of the Coexistence Movement of Slovakia, the Slovak premier has no right to hold office. Evelin Forro reports;

[Forro] Relations between the three Magyar political movements of Slovakia are far from cloudless. They are, however, improving. This is what transpired from the roundtable discussion organized in Prague's Hungarian Cultural Center with the participation of leaders of the Independent Magyar Initiative, the Magyar Christian Democratic Movement, and Coexistence.

Many more people came than expected, and they most of all wanted to know what the politicians of Magyar nationality think about nationalism and the Slovak langauge law, which is under preparation.

They have agreed that the language law cannot be directed against the national minorities. The Christian Democratic leader, Ferenc Szocs, mentioned the example of Switzerland, Belgium, and South Tyrol as examples to be followed.

Peter Huncsics, of the Independent Magyar Initiative, said that if a law like this is to be created then it must correspond to the European standards.

Miklos Durai, leader of the Coexistence Movement expressed his worry that the danger of totalitarianism of a new kind threatens. Durai was asked his opinion about the fact that the Slovak premier called him a fascist. He replied that naturally he rejects this remark, but he does not wish to deal with it any further. Durai added, I do not consider Mr. Meciar as a rightful head of government because he does not belong to the trend which would lead us to Europe. Durai's reply was receive with great appaluse by the Czech audience.

Following the roundtable discussion, the leaders of the three movement told to journalists that at the November local government elections, the local organs will decide for themselves in what sort of coalition they are to run. According to the signs, in most places the Magyar Christian Democrats and Coexistence will put forward joint candidates, but there are cases when all three Magyar movements will support the same candidate in Slovakia.

SNS Chairman Sees Totalitarianism Emerging

AU2709171090 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 24 Sep 90 p 2

[CTK report: "The Slovak National Party Protests...."]

[Excerpt] Banska Bystrica—A district National Day was organized by the local club of the Slovak National Party [SNS] in Banska Bystrica yesterday. The meeting in the House of Workers, where the meeting had to be held because of rain, was attended by some 300 followers of this party. SNS Chairman Vitazoslav Moric, who attended the meeting, said in his speech, among other things, that the "gentle" revolution is evolving into a new totalitarianism. He said that attacks on the SNS through the mass media have been intensifying of late. He criticized the media for their distorted reporting on the national act of commemorating [prewar Slovak nationalist politician] Andrej Hlinka at Ruzomberok. He said in this context that, rather than being controlled by the government, the press ought to be under the control of the decisive political parties and movements. He stressed that the SNS is a democratic party and will stay democratic. He criticized the tedious process of legally enshrining Slovak as the state and official language in Slovakia. He drew attention to the danger stemming from the "old Bolshevik structures," who are guided by the slogan "the worse the situation gets, the better for us." [passage omitted]

CSFR Prepared To Send Warfare Units to Gulf

LD2809214190 Prague Television Service in Czech 2045 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier told U.S. journalists today that the oil crisis would cost Czechoslovakia $6 billion—an amount which equals the entire income of our state in hard currency. Czechoslovakia will need money; and if something does not change in the Middle East, the growing oil prices will bring tragic consequences for Czechoslovakia, Minister Dienstbier said today. He is in the United States attending the UN General Assembly session.

The minister announced at the same time that Czechoslovakia is prepared to send three anti-chemical warfare units and one field hospital with its personnel to Saudi Arabia. Nevertheless, it would require 20 flights by the biggest U.S. planes, the C-5 Galaxy.

Havel Returns; Talks About New York Summit

LD0110104490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0846 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Statement by President Vaclav Havel at Prague's Ruzyne Airport on his return from the World Summit for Children in New York]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] I had a chance to meet with the Kuwaiti amir, whom I invited to visit Czechoslovakia. After the summit the Saudi foreign minister came to see me. I have agreed in principle with him on the establishment of diplomatic relations between Czechoslovakia and Saudi Arabia. This is something which could be very important for us in the future, for resons which you no doubt understand.

The next day, when the summit was held, I held a brief bilateral meeting first thing in the morning with Venezuelan President Perez. This was a very interesting conversation indeed. He was very well prepared and briefed. Venezuela takes very seriously those talks that have started on possible deliveries from Venezuela in exchange for our goods, and he continued this from the talks. He was very well briefed on them. He accepted an invitation to visit Czechoslovakia and expressed his support for the democratic government in Czechoslovakia and his interest in developments in Czechoslovakia. [passage omitted]

Then we held a meeting with President Bush. He had a very busy schedule indeed, important talks on the state budget, yet he still came to New York. However, he was not able, of course, to meet with all the 70 heads of state who were present there. But so far as I know, he had chosen four of them—I was one of those who had the honor. The gist of our conversation was primarily that, in the presence of Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier, Michael Zantovsky, and Sasa Vondra, I informed him briefly on the state of the union, that is, Czechoslovakia. I spoke about our successes, such as our free elections and our free parliament, and so forth, but I also told him about our problems, primarily foreign economic relations which can exceptionally complicate, and even threaten, the transformation of our entire incipient economy. The President listened to this with great interest and assured us that he will do everything in his power for the United States to assist Czechoslovakia in this situation in a certain way, by credits, or by stabilizing funds, and so forth. He also explained, however, the difficulties that the United States has today, a certain unwillingness of congress to give money to help other countries, and all those problems connected with the Gulf conflict. President Bush highly appreciated our clear stance on the invasion of Kuwait. That is approximately all.

After the meeting with President Bush we left for home and arrived, as you no doubt have noticed, some two hours later than planned, so we do apologize for this. [passage omitted]

U.S. Institute To Open Branch in Prague

AU2809120490 Prague CTK in English 0800 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] New York Sep 26 (CTK correspondent)— Visiting Czechoslovak Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier and director of the Institute for East-West Security Studies (IEWSS) John Edwin Mroz signed here yesterday an agreement on the establishment of a IEWSS European Center in Czechoslovakia.

Technical details will be agreed in the forthcoming days so that the center can start its activities already in November this year.

The institute was founded in New York 10 years ago as an independent international organization for political research and education. The center in Czechoslovakia will be its first foreign branch.

J.E. Mroz told CTK that the institute counts with the launching this year of three basic programs aimed at transfer of experiences from business and creation of good conditions for business activities, new trade relations between the Central and East European countries, and regular high-level consultations on relations between Germany and the Central European states.

Polish Defense Minister Pays Working Visit

Discusses Pact Issues With Vacek

LD2809220590 Prague CTK in English 1818 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 28 (CTK)—Piotr Kolodziejczyk, Polish defense minister, stressed at a joint conference with his Czechoslovak counterpart Miroslav Vacek here today the great significance of bilateral rapprochement before the creation of a new system of security in Europe. The ministries of the two countries are of the same opinion in this respect, he added.

Kolodziejczyk went on to say that nowadays, when NATO remains a compact military force and the Warsaw Pact undergoes transformation and decomposition there is a threat of asymmetry in the alignment of forces which could cause endangerment and destabilization.

Piotr Kolodziejczyk further commented on the speeded-up process of Germany's unification and the events in the Baltics, Belorussia and the Ukraine. He said that the processes there can be regarded as positive, however the development in this region can face a certain danger.

Miroslav Vacek voiced satisfaction with the results of the talks and said that both sides will continue to cooperate closely.

After ending his visit Piotr Kolodziejczyk left for Poland.

Calfa Receives Kolodziejczyk

LD2809224890 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1900 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Marian Calfa, premier of the Federal Government, received Rear Admiral Piotr Kolodziejczyk, minister of national defense of Poland, today.

They discussed above all the current relations between the Warsaw Pact states, cooperation in the course of the conversion of military industry, and possibilities of further cooperation on the basis of bilateral agreements.

Calfa Meets With Austrian Vice Chancellor

LD2809215990 Prague CTK in English 1841 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 28 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Premier Marian Calfa received here today Austrian Vice Chancellor Josef Riegler to discuss concrete cooperation between the two countries.

They discussed the initiative of Austrian Federal Chancellor Franz Vranitzky to create a zone without nuclear power plants along the joint borders. Premier Calfa handed over to the Austrian guest a report worked out by a special mission of the International Atomic Energy Agency based in Vienna and promised that Czechoslovak experts will also send a report on this issue to the Austrian side.

Josef Riegler was also received by Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel.

CSFR, Malta Drop Visa Requirements

LD2809173190 Prague CTK in English 1535 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 28 (CTK)—An agreement abolishing visa duty between Czechoslovakia and Malta was signed by the two countries' representatives here today. The agreement will come into effect on October 8.

Czechoslovak and Maltese citizens will be able to travel without visas for tourist stays not exceeding three months.

Vales Signs Joint PRC Economic Agreement

LD2809223190 Prague CTK in English 2010 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Prague Sept 28 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Deputy Premier Vaclav Vales and Chinese Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Zheng Tuobin signed a trade agreement at Zbraslav near Prague today.

Vaclav Vales told CTK that Czechoslovakia, which is China's biggest trade partner in East Europe, will export to the country equipment for open pit mines next year. Czechoslovak goods have a a good reputation in China and Chinese products are popular here too, he added.

The signed trade agreement will come into effect on January 1, 1991.

Czechoslovak Economy Minister Vladimir Dlouhy received here today Chinese First Deputy Minister of Energy Resources Shi Dazhen who is head of a Chinese delegation to the fifth session of the permanent working group for energy between Czechoslovakia and China.

The Chinese guest said during the discussion that bilateral cooperation is traditionally on a good level.

Vladimir Dlouhy expressed Czechoslovakia's long-term interest in economic cooperation with China.

Chinese Ambassador to Czechoslovakia Wang Xingda was also present at the meeting.

Reportage on Havel's Visit to Italy

WA2409182790

For Czechoslovak reportage on President Vaclav Havel's 23 September visit to Italy, including the presentation of the Malaparte Prize for Literature on the Island of Capri, please see the Italy & Vatican City section of the 24 September West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

***Notice to Readers:** Beginning 4 Oct, the German Unification Attachment to the West Europe DAILY REPORT as well as the GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC sections of the East Europe DAILY REPORT and the East Europe JPRS Report will cease publication. Also on that date, the FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY section of the West Europe DAILY REPORT will be renamed GERMANY. The GERMANY section of the West Europe DAILY REPORT will include the kind of material previously published under the FRG, GDR, and German Unification titles, as well as material previously found in the GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC sections of the East Europe JPRS Report.*

De Maiziere Speaks on Ministers' Stasi Links

LD2809190890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1832 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—GDR Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere has known for more than two weeks about clear grounds for suspicion against three members of his cabinet. He was informed on 13 September by the Committee for the Examination of People's Chamber Deputies and Ministers Without Parliamentary Seats.

In response to a question during today's People's Chamber session, the Christian Democratic Union chairman stated that in the meantime he had spoken to all those accused. Stronger evidence against Construction Minister Axel Viehweger, who resigned during the session, was only passed on to him for his information yesterday. The other two ministers had given him assurances that they had merely given information to the State Security Service [Stasi] as part of their professional duties.

The plenum rejected a renewed examination of the prime minister himself as well as Party for Democratic Socialism chairman, Gregor Gysi, for possible Stasi collaboration.

Alliance 90 Calls For Demonstration at Chamber

LD2809134390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1311 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The Alliance 90 Citizens' Movement this afternoon called on "all to come to the People's Chamber session at the House of Parliamentarians immediately." A spokeswoman told ADN that they want to support deputies who are staging a sit-in in front of the People's Chamber Presidium to press for the publication of the names of deputies who have worked for State Security.

The appeal, the spokeswoman said, is supported by the New Forum, the Initiative for Peace and Human Rights, Democracy Now, the Independent Women's Association, and the Green Party.

Accusations, Admission of Stasi Links in Chamber

Viehweger Submits Resignation

LD2809152590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1425 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Construction Minister Axel Viehweger (FDP) [Free Democratic Party] has today asked the People's Chamber to accept his immediate resignation. He asked the house not to evaluate this step as an admission of guilt. He and his family cannot do anything else. Viehweger admitted to having contacts with the State Security Service [Stasi] in connection with his work as a Dresden city councillor. He said it was part of his work and condemned the moral aspect of his actions. Viehweger, however, did not learn until Thursday evening [27 September] that he had been significantly more seriously implicated than he had originally assumed.

He does not understand how incriminating material got into his file. Viehweger assured he had not signed any declarations that he would work for the Stasi. He congratulated those who had organized "their smell of roses" in the meantime.

Steinberg, Preiss Indicated

LD2809170290 Hamburg DPA in German 1434 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (DPA)—Ministers Karl-Hermann Steinberg (CDU) [Christian-Democratic Union], Manfred Preiss, and Axel Viehweger (both FDP), are said to have worked for the GDR State Security Service. Viehweger announced his resignation this afternoon to the People's Chamber. [passage omitted]

According to "DER MORGEN," another 12 deputies are named on the list: Rudolf Essler, Dieter Froenicke, Armin Kleinau, Harald-Dietrich Kuehne, Eberhard Schiffner (all CDU); Dietmar Schicke, Jochen Steineck (both FDP); Horst Kober, Peter Stadermann, Gisela Voigt (all PDS) [Party for Democratic Socialism]; Manfred Naumann and Hans Watzek (both SPD) [Social Democratic Party].

Opitz Denies Stasi Connections

LD2809170690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1434 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The accusations against him "are a pack of lies," said Dr. Bernhard Opitz (Free Democratic Party) today in a personal statement to the People's Chamber.

He had never written any report for the Stasi and had never had any conspiratorial meetings with these people.

Opitz admitted to the deputies that, during his imprisonment in a Stasi prison for intelligence gathering, the service made determined efforts to recruit him. Files could only be compiled by having people spy on him. He had never had official contacts with the service.

He accused the parliamentary committee of publishing false statements about himself. The committee was acting in the capacity of state prosecutor and judge. "I have to prove my innocence and cannot even look at my files." Opitz underlined that he had been watched all his life.

More Legislators Reveal Links

LD2809180190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1459 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Following Construction Minister Axel Viehweger and Free Democratic Party Deputy Dr. Bernhard Opitz, other parliamentarians today revealed their Stasi connections to the People's Chamber.

Eberhard Schiffner (Christian Democratic Union) [CDU] had not learned until this morning that he was one of the accused. He had known since July that there was a file on him. He only admitted that in 1963, as head of a state veterinary practice, he had publicly and on demand passed on information to the service on the subject of animal losses. He rejected further collaboration and asked for his family and himself to be given a chance.

Deputy Heinz Blume (CDU) admitted "normal" working contacts during his work in a combine. However, he had never passed on information that could have been disadvantageous to citizens. He reported on economic crimes committed by leading political and economic functionaries and warned of the danger of ruining people who believed they had served a good purpose.

"I signed an obligation to secrecy and to collaboration," said Dr. Peter Stadermann (PDS), long-standing deputy research director of a university and the bearer of secret research projects within CEMA's framework He had put down on paper estimations which were damaging only to those GDR citizens who in their turn had inflicted damgage on this country through embezzlement and corruption. Stadermann pointed out that he and his family suffered form repressive measures by the Stasi. He knew for years that there were files on him. He asked the People's Chamber president to be allowed to resign his mandate.

Ex-Minister of Research Professor Frank Terpe said he never signed a statement on collaboration with the Stasi, he never took money, and he never worked to the disadvantage of others.

After he came under suspicion, after the first viewing of the files, he confided in the then parliamentary group chairman of the SPD [Social Democratic Party of Germany]. His relations to the Stasi ministry had only involved questions from "men" from this institution who wanted to get information from him as a university professor on an assistant's alleged intentions to flee the republic and interest in Terpe's political stand toward Willy Brandt and the SPD.

Brigitte Zschoche (SPD) professes not to have worked for the Stasi, as had been marked in her file. She rejected attempts by the Stasi to recruit her after 1960. The ad hoc investigative committee had not recommended that she resign. Because of contacts during her student years, she felt incriminated but not guilty. She did not view her candidacy for the Landtag elections to be a breach of trust.

Klaus Steinitz, SPD, denied in front of the parliamentarians that he was an unofficial collaborator with the Stasi. During the middle of the 1960's, during a business trip to Sweden, he had merely been asked to conduct talks abroad about economic questions and agreed to this. He was prepared to give information about factual questions but not about people.

After Oswald Wutzke made a sharp attack against Interior Minister Dr. Peter-Michael Diestel on coming to terms with the Stasi, the People's Chamber went into the announced closed session.

Secretary of State Dr. Guenter Krause introduced an appropriate motion, which was passed by a large majority.

Names Read in Closed Session

LD2809184190 Hamburg DPA in German 1714 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—The names of those parliamentarians who came up in connection with documents belonging to the former State Security Service were read out this evening at a closed session of the People's Chamber.

Deputies said over 56 names were read out by Wolfgang Ullmann, deputy president of the parliament. Ullmann declared his readiness after People's Chamber President Sabine Bergmann-Pohl (Christian Democratic Union) did not want to announce the names on grounds of conscience.

Deputies said nine politicians did not grant their permission to the People's Chamber committee responsible for an inspection of their files. Part of the session was lively, mainly in the debate on procedural issues.

Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere (CDU) complained about journalists, according to parliamentarians. He proposed that they leave the building during the closed session. It was further said that there was no support for the motion.

Names Will Not Be Published

LD2809184790 Hamburg DPA in German 1824 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—The names of 15 deputies and ministers who have been called upon by the examination committee of the GDR's People's Chamber to give up their seats will not be published. Parliament decided this this evening. The proposal to publish the names was moved after lists of names were already circulating among journalists. Sixty-eight deputies voted for publication, 80 were against, with some abstentions.

Three More Admissions Submitted

LD2809205590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1827 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—"It is correct that I had contact with the MfS [Ministry for State Security]." However, nobody suffered because of this; he was not open to blackmail on account of personal blame, and his files were manipulated. In these words, Dr. Jochen Steinecke (FDP) outlined his contacts with the State Security Service this evening to the People's Chamber. "I wanted to protect myself," he said. Dr. Steinecke had at no time been aware of giving information about people. His contacts had come about solely on the basis of poor financial decisions. Dr. Steinecke announced that he would resign from all party offices and suspend his membership in the FDP until the problem had been finally cleared up. He would have the process legally examined after 3 October.

Bad financial decisions were also the occasion for Dieter Froenicke's (CDU) contacts with MfS. As he reaffirmed to the parliamentarians, no one had suffered through his information. The files had been drawn up only on the immediate area of his work. Froenicke announced that he would seek legal protection after 3 October. He asked prime minister and lawyer, Lothar de Maiziere, to take up his case.

As emerges from a written statement by CDU Deputy Udo Kamm, he signed a declaration for the MfS 12 years ago. "In connection with this activity, information was only passed on monthly, and it was handed on both to the CDU party leadership and the bezirk executive of the SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] in Halle as well as to the MfS," the statement says. At the beginning of the eighties he had told the Stasi that he could no longer reconcile this activity with his conscience.

The decision was passed by a majority not to name the 15 people included in the highest category, whose identities had already been revealed by agencies. Category one is defined as "suspicion confirmed of having been an informal employee. The examining committee recommends, after having viewed the files, immediate resignation from a seat."

Diestel Thanks Security Committee Chairmen

LD2809184290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1611 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Interior Ministry Peter-Michael Diestel has thanked the chairmen of the two People's Chamber special committees for Stasi [State Security Service] control for their "equally necessary and sensitive work." He expressed his thanks to Joachim Gauck (committee for control and disbanding of the former Stasi) and Peter Hildebrand (committee to examine the deputies) "for the results as well as for the honesty and objectivity of the assessment of the cooperation with myself and my ministry."

Diestel's press statement, released today, to the People's Chamber session says: "If there were, and possibly still are, differing opinions in some factual questions and questions of details, then we were all governed by the one thought which was to clear up the Ministry of State Security, this one apparatus of oppression, that was as nothing else an expression of Socialist Unity Party of Germany Stalinism, to smash it and to let the victims receive justice."

Stasi Reportedly Transferred Millions to PDS

AU2809102990 Hamburg BILD in German 28 Sep 90 p 4

[Peter Brinkmann report: "Gregor Gysi: This Is how the State Security Service Millions Came to the Party of Democratic Socialism"]

[Text] This is one more piece of evidence of the interlacements between the Stasi [State Security Service] and the PDS [Party of Democratic Socialism] (SED) [Socialist Unity Party of Germany]: On 24 April the savings bank of the Stasi successor "National Security Office" transferred 480 million mark to the Executive Committee of Gysi's party. The transaction was made from account No. 6612-35-445007 of the Stasi bank to the German Trade Bank, account No. 1258. This is said in a secret report of the GDR Finance Ministry and the GDR Auditing Court. It is strange since Stasi and its successor, the National Security Office, were supposed to have been dissolved by 31 March. Yesterday the man who dissolved the Stasi, Joachim Gauck, stated that the terrorist association has not been destroyed thus far. The PDS (SED) divided the 480 million marks into small portions and transferred them to numerous recipients. Was the wealth supposed to be saved from imminent expropriation?

Police Investigate Arson Attack on Berlin Bank

LD2609093790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0916 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The People's Police began investigations on Wednesday [26 September] morning into the circumstances and consequences of the arson attack on a branch of the Dresdner Bank in East Berlin.

A fire broke out in a bank night deposit box in the Johannes-R.- Becherstrasse in the city borough of Pankow after a detonation at about 0100. The fire was put out shortly afterwards. No one was injured. The amount of damage is not yet known. Letters found on the scene indicate that the fire was started deliberately.

In the letters, which are signed with the name "Revolutionary Flames," the Dresdner Bank is accused of participating in exploitation and repression and the "striving for renewed world domination," which is claimed as justification for the attack.

Nation Prepares for Upcoming Local Elections

Election Situation, Procedures Reviewed

LD2809131190 Budapest MTI in English 1052 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Budapest, September 28 (MTI)—The first round of local government elections will be held in Hungary on Sunday, September 30. A total of 7,800,000 eligible voters will go to the polls to elect 26,000 local representatives.

In small towns with fewer than 10,000 inhabitants, voters will elect their local government representatives, and their mayors, by casting a direct vote. In towns with more than 10,000 residents, half the mandates will be decided according to votes cast for individual candidates, the other half according to votes cast for party lists, with the mayor elected by the local government representatives. In Budapest, voters will receive three ballot papers. Alongside electing local representatives, they will also vote for representatives on the district and metropolitan lists.

According to a public opinion poll held in mid-September, most voters would vote for the leading party of the government coalition, the Hungarian Democratic Forum (29 per cent), with the Federation of Young Democrats receiving 19, and the Alliance of Free Democrats 16 per cent of the vote, of the organisations putting up candidates. Public opinion researchers predict a 50 per cent turn-out at the polls. The minimum turn-out for a valid election is 40 per cent.

The elections on Sunday will replace the Soviet-style council system with local governments. General opinion is that this will clinch the change in political system.

After a debate of several weeks, the Hungarian parliament approved the new law on local governments, in early August. According to the legal measure, the local governments are independent, enjoy judicial protection of their rights, and can determine the local taxes and budget. Lawful supervision of the local governments is exercised by the presidential commission, who is appointed by the president of the Republic on the proposal of the prime minister. The eight commissioners, who are barred from infringing on the autonomy of the local governments, will supervise one region each, consisting of two or three counties.

Election candidates have been fielded by 42 parties, 647 social organizations, 12 minorities, and 447 various coalitions. The order of parties with the most candidates standing for mayors and representatives is as follows: The Hungarian Democratic Forum (HDF) [MDF], the Independent Smallholders' Party (ISP) [FKgP], the Alliance of Free Democrats (AFD) [SZDSZ], the Hungarian Socialist Party (HSP) [MSZP], the Christian Democratic People's Party (CDPP)[KDNP], the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party (HSWP) [MSZMP], the Federation of Young Democrats (FYD) [FIDESZ], and the Social Democratic Party of Hungary (SDPH) [SZP].

The competitors for the post of mayor of Budapest are Mrs. Barsi, nee Etelka Pataki (HDF), an urban planning expert; MP Gabor Demszky (AFD), chairman of parliament's National Security Committee; Sandor Racz (ISP), chairman of the Central Workers' Council; MP Klara Ungar (FYD); and Endre Borbely (SDPH).

Goncz Appeals for Turnout

LD2809182690 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1600 GMT 28 Sep 90

["Appeal" by President Arpad Goncz on 28 September; place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] My fellow compatriots, today is the last day of the local election campaign; the time justifies my addressing you. On 30 September, the day after tomorrow, you will have an historical opportunity to exercise your rights as citizens, fulfill your moral duties to elect the leaders of your local community, and thus take into your hands in a responsible way the direction of your own fate. The present and the future of the country will be decided first of all in the towns and the villages. The leaders of the elected local authorities will decide how and for what purpose they should use the fruits of your labors and what proportion of it may be allocated to public purposes.

The local elections are, perhaps, the most important steps in the transformation of the country. You know personally those to whom you entrust the fate of your local community. My life taught me to have complete trust in the maturity of my compatriots and their sure understanding of people.

Because of the importance of the elections I am asking you all to go to cast your vote, and in the full knowledge of your responsibilities, according to your conscience, to elect your local leaders. With your sound decisions you will give a great service to our country and to yourselves as well.

Do not forget, on the 30th you will determine the fate of your community for years, the future of your immediate surroundings, the quality of your life. I am asking you to cast your vote in the knowledge of this.

Antall Comments on Media Freedom

LD2809224490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1600 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Miklos Nagy report]

[Text] After Prime Minister Jozsef Antall visits Miskolc, Nyireghaza, and Nyirbator, the next stop on his election tour will be Debrecen. At the news briefing in Nyiregyhaza the prime minister said that counties such as Szabolcs-Szatmar-Bereg can set off on the path of catching up if the conditions are created for an influx of foreign capital, and if they are able to show what they can provide something in exchange.

Replying to questions from journalists, Jozsef Antall spoke about the paid advertisement of the information and campaign committee of the Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF], which was carried by today's newspapers and which objects to the leader of television's election program. The prime minister pointed out: They advocate press freedom, and the press cannot suffer any grievance in this. A political party, however, has the right to object to a program even on television. This, in the prime minister's view, is not intervention. It is a party contest in the election period. Numerous events have occurred recently, the prime minister continued, which can be objected to and which are one-sided. The press must also give a uniform assessment. Mutual freedom also means that the political parties can criticize the press.

Antall Tours Counties Before Elections

LD2909125190 Budapest MTI in English 1041 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Budapest, September 28 (MTI)—On Friday [28 September], two days before the local elections, Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall made a tour in Borsod-Abauj-Zemplen, Szabolcs-Szatmar-Bereg and Hajdu-Bihar Counties, and addressed election rallies in Nyerigyhaza, Nyirbator and Debrecen.

Antall emphasized his government's commitment to developing the more backward eastern region of Hungary. [passage indistinct]

He said the favorable effects of the three-year economic policy programme of his government would first be felt in the second half of 1991.

The prime minister said that, since in office, he had had eight official trips abroad and negotiated with five heads of state and eleven prime ministers. The talks were always aimed at increasing confidence towards Hungary. "I wanted, and would like, to achieve that Hungary returns to Europe as a free nation," Antall said.

The prime minister said he would soon travel to Strasbourg where the parliamentary assembly of the Council of Europe would pass a decision on Hungary's admission.

In Debrecen, Jozsef Antall met church leaders as well.

MSZP Current, Future Situation Assessed

AU2909183490 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 25 Sep 90 p 5

[Peter Vajda editorial: "MSZP: Many Small Things Make Up a Lot"]

[Text] Where is the Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP] heading? This question is justified by the series of meetings of the leading bodies of this party; apparently, the MSZP parliamentary faction will also join these meetings now. These meetings are not routine, but partially closed sessions, and, as we learned from background discussions, these meetings aim at making the activity carried out by the MSZP since the last congress more efficient. Opinions differ within the MSZP leadership on the efficiency of this activity. There are people who stress the fact that the party succeeded in starting a slow emergence from the deep crisis and several basic organizations have stabilized their membership. Others claim that the MSZP has failed to efficiently represent in national politics the people who live on wages and salaries. Several signs show that, on the eve of an important meeting to be held on 25 September, the latter view is decisive, and this means that the meeting might also deal with the responsibility for this situation, including perhaps personal responsibility.

Opinions strongly differ within the party leadership itself. The MSZP faction in parliament is often blamed for not participating in the local government election campaign and for not always rejecting things that, according to the MSZP membership, should be rejected. Many people make comparisons showing that the MSZP faction is far behind the Alliance of Young Democrats [SZDSZ], for example, in condemning allegedly right-wing phenomena, and the MSZP faction is blamed for their lack of organization. (One must add here that nobody denies Imre Pozsgay's theoretical knowledge and really historical merits in securing a peaceful transition.) Those who defend Pozsgay claim that the MSZP is the party which can definitely not afford to develop a unity of action based on a Bolshevik-type "democratic centralism" in parliament.

Most MSZP members regard it as a basic issue to find the way to secure a firm implementation of the party's social-democratic character. The MSZP Congress in May took a stand in favor of the party's social-democratic image. MSZP Chairman Gyula Horn, as well as other party officials, have committed themselves to this. Of course, the essential document—the declaration—is one thing, but this does not automatically turn the MSZP into a social democratic party. The authors of the recently published appeal of the "Third Power—An Association for a Social-Democratic MSZP" are also led by the concern that the party "has not yet overcome the shock of the change in the regime." In any case, their appeal also caused a certain amount of shock. The officials, including the party chairman, who were not asked to sign the appeal are concerned about new break lines in the party. (Gyula Horn said that he was quite surprised to see the aforementioned appeal published in NEPSZABADSAG.) One of the signatories, however, Ivan Vitanyi, thinks that their initiative is a uniting, rather than a dividing, force and aims at representing democracy consistently.

Many people, of course, question the possibility of such a unity and ask themselves who can be affected by this unity. One of the MSZP representatives in parliament said recently that 70 percent of the party members cannot come to terms with the changes and identify with the current guidelines. (These guidelines might lead to a constructive reevaluation of their previous views about the Alliance of Free Democrats and the FIDESZ, views that did not consider the various trends, and to seeking the future without illusions and ideological prejudices.) Those belonging to the faction of leftist socialists, the people's democratic platform, and the workers platform confront the liberal-social democratic trend with certain community and workers' ownership concepts; however, it seems that these people do not have major positions in the MSZP leadership.

One can already foresee in the current phase that the extent to which the MSZP can make its break with its past state party character genuine will be decisive for this party. One of the recent statements made by Gyula Horn in which—to avoid some disclosures—he distanced himself from the former MSZP leaders' corruption affairs, showed this intention to break with the past. He also made it clear, however, that young people should take over the party leadership sooner or later—the generation of young people in their forties.

First Round of Local Government Elections Held

Elections Begin 30 Sep

LD3009074690 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0700 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] At 0600 this morning local elections began. Nearly 8 million electors can vote in about 11,000 electoral districts for members of the local self-governing bodies. As a result of the elections, the previous local council system will be replaced by some 3,000 candidates competing for the 3,000 mayoral posts—and 6,535 of them are independent candidates.

The results of the elections will be valid if more than 40 percent of the electors cast their votes in any given district. One thing is already certain even before the first rounds: at 11 smaller settlements, midterm elections will have to be held, as there are no candidates for the posts of mayors.

Voting Begins, 'Minor Problems' Reported

LD3009191890 Budapest MTI in English 1733 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Budapest, September 30 (MTI)—According to information from the National Election Committee at Sunday noon, local government elections are in progress throughout the country, in a lawful and orderly manner, without hitches.

Data compiled at 10.30 a.m. indicates that, with the exception of Bacs-Kiskun, Bekes, and Zala Counties, 17.4 per cent of voters cast their ballots. In settlements with fewer than 10,000 residents, this proportion was 22.9 per cent, in larger cities it was 14.1 per cent.

These figures are purely statistical summaries, they are not determining as the main point of local government elections is for more than 40 per cent of eligible voters to participate in the individual villages, towns and cities, it was stressed at the press conference.

Of the 1,520,000 voters in Budapest, 220,300 cast their ballots by 10.30 a.m.

There were reports of minor problems. For instance, in the north-eastern Hungarian village of Senyo (Szabolcs-Szatmar County), the name of one candidate was not on the voting list. This was learned three hours after voting began. Voting was suspended, and it was ascertained that the council submitted 23, instead of 24 names to the press that prepared the voting ballots, and accidentally left out independent candidate Ferenc Szigeti. The committee decided it would type his name on the list subsequently, and would put up a new ballot box, sealing the earlier one, in which 150 of the some 1,000 votes had already been cast. Mr Szigeti said he would consider an official, subsequent protest in the light of the election results.

Low Area Turnout Causes Revote

LD3009220190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Report by correspondent Andras Kerekes from the National Election Committee]

[Text] Two opinions can be heard in the building of the National Election Committee: One says that the Magyars are not interested in the fate of local government, the other is that yes, the Magyars are interested in their own fate, and in the future operation of the local government which will directly affect them. Both statements are true, or at least there is something in them.

In the capital and 162 settlements with populations of over 10,000, a second round of elections will have to be held because less then 40 percent of those eligible to vote went to the polling stations, and this is less than the minimum required. Incidentally, these settlements represent one third of the national population.

In over 2,900 settlements where the population is less than 10,000, however, more people went to vote than the minimum percentage prescribed by law, and mayors were elected nearly everywhere. This required 25 percent plus one vote. This accounts for over 90 percent of such settlements in which two-thirds of the population lives. Every 10th village and small town already has a political leader: 789 candidates are already mayors.

Here are a few figures to help in the analysis: In Debrecen, the participation rate was 27 percent; in Vas County it was about 45 percent. Out of the eight mayors elected so far in Vas County, seven have stood before at the head of the settlement as council chairmen. Eighty percent of the winners ran as independent candidates. Regarding the remaining 20 percent, the Smallholders Party is in the lead. In Budapest, however, on the basis of a one percent sample, the first three places are occupied by the Alliance of Free Democrats, with a result of above 35 percent, the Hungarian Democratic Forum with more than 25 percent, and the Federation of Young Democrats with more than 16 percent.

Latest Local Election Results Reported

LD0110085290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0700 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Staff member Andras Kerekes reports from the National Election Committee center on the latest data of the local authority elections]

[Text] The independents have gained a sweeping advantage among the mayoral posts. In the provinces, the biggest coalition party [Hungarian Democratic Forum—MDF] was overtaken by candidates of the Smallholders Party [FKgP], and in the cities by those of the Alliance of Free Democrats [SZDSZ] and the Federation of Young Democrats [FIDESZ].

However, only about two-thirds of the population have elected a self-government. In about 1,700 individual constituencies—or, looking at the lists, in 150-180 settlements—the first round is invalid due to low voter turnout.

The National Election Committee promises a preliminary final result for 1800 [1700 GMT] today. The latest data are as follows: Of the 2,930 mayoral posts, the fate of 2,325 has already been decided. Of these, 2,037—83.5 percent—are independent.

The FKgP have barely gotten past second place with 3.5 percent. Of the so-called small-list mandates, a somewhat smaller proportion—about 73 percent—has gone to the independents. In settlements with more than 10,000 people the SZDSZ and FIDESZ have pulled past the others.

In Budapest, where candidates can only be voted into the general assembly in the second round, candidates were successful in the first round in 155 of the 414 individual constituencies. According to the estimates based on lists, only the electors of five districts cleared the hurdle successfully. Of the mandates gained in this manner, 46 went to the joint candidates of the SZDSZ and FIDESZ, 54 to the SZDSZ, 46 to the FIDESZ, 41 to the candidates of the MDF; the government coalition parties got 16, and the Hungarian Socialist Party got six mandates.

New Government Loan System Outlined

LD2809200690 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Gabor Bankuti sums up this morning's news briefing by the government spokesman:

[Bankuti] The government made one of its most important decisions at its session yesterday. The E and P has been born—or, to give it its full name, the Existential and Privatization Loan. Its aim is to enable the privatization of state property to be carried out and to give citizens the opportunity to engage in enterprise, and its result will be the repayment of the state debt.

The functioning of the mechanism is simple. A person who buys state property will obtain a loan. He deposits it, the deposits will be used to pay off the state debt and to supplement the loan fund, to which 100 million Deutsch mark will be given by Germany, and the same amount—4 billion forints—by the Hungarian National Bank. The process will last until the state debt disappears.

An existential loan of up to 50 million forints will be given to every Hungarian citizen without a criminal record, or to a foreigner with a settlement permit who has not previously received such a loan. The applications will be judged quickly, with a simplified procedure, without examinations. The stipulation is that the loan can be used for real estate, installations, machines and the purchase of a limited liability company business share.

If a person finds 50 million forints insufficient, he can claim a P—that is privatization—loan from the National Bank, without limit, with which he can also buy shares; however, a committee will decide about this.

For the E loan—up to 5 million forints—a two percent private resource will be needed, plus 1.5 percent guarantee, and it will be given for six years. For amounts between 5 million and 10 million forints the personal resource is 15 percent and the term of the loan is eight years, but amortization only has to start in the second year. For between 10 million and 50 million forints they expect a 20 percent personal resource, the loan is given for 10 years, and amortization begins in the third year.

The interest on the E loan is 16-17 percent to which the Commercial Bank adds a further four percent. Above 50 million forints the Privatization Loan requires a 25 percent personal resource, but the E Loan is also accepted as a part of this. The E and P Loans Office will be operational by October, but it will start to give out loans when they have a purpose—in other words, when privatization gets underway.

The draft bill on local taxes has been drawn up. It does not prescribe local taxes, only makes them possible, and it will set their upper limits. A basic principle is that everything can only be taxed once. There will be a possibility for a building and plot tax, community and tourism tax, and industry tax.

The Excise Law expires at the end of the year. The new draft will reduce the maximum duty. The duty on capital gain, for example, will go down from eight to six percent; the duty on inheritance and gifts will be 30-40 percent less. In the case of home inheritance, only half of this will have to be paid. Plots of land acquired for housing increase will be duty free. Duty on first passports will be 1,000 forints and on car ownership transfer 500 forints.

The government has decreed the creation of an Export Control Office. This will take care to exclude the resale of strategic items. With this decision the COCOM [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls] ban list will no longer apply to our country.

The Hungarian and Czechoslovak Environmental Protection Ministers held a meeting. This has been approved by the Council of Ministers. At the meeting they agreed that the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros investment was a shared but mistaken decision; both sides bear equal responsibility. A joint committee will be established, led by the two ministers, which will examine every possible solution.

The restrictions on gas and gas oil use have been lifted or eased. Beginning in January contributions will be imposed as a way of preventing people using domestic heating oil in cars.

According to another decision, in the future not 30, but 50 percent of the Road Fund can be spent on maintaining village roads. This was necessary because the earnings of the Road Fund are less than expected, but they want to pay the villages the 300 million forints.

Finally, the draft bill on decorations has been drawn up. There will once again be an Order of St. Stephen. At most 100 people can hold it at any one time. There will be an Order of Merit of the Republic, a Corvin Wreath—altogether 60 people can hold this at one time—and an Order of Merit for Bravery. The Kossuth and Szechenyi Prizes will remain. The old decorations cannot be worn in future.

Antall Views Students' Financial Grievances

LD2809194490

[Editorial Report] Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian at 1505 GMT on 28 September carries the "I Come From Hungary" program including a three-minute interview with Prime Minister Jozsef Antall. The program begins with the announcer stressing that one of the most spectacular series of events during the week was the demonstration held in several towns in Hungary by university students. The mood of these could be well sensed from a report on the student rally in Szeged while Prime Minister Jozsef Antall's summary of it needs no comment, the announcer adds.

The program continues with a recording of a rally where the students jeer an unnamed speaker when he suggests that it is now easy to demonstrate against a democratically elected government; they should have tried a few years ago.

The program then continues with recording of a rally in Szeged where students attend a mock grave of studentship. Interviewees complain that nothing has been changed in higher education as far as autonomy and finance is concerned, and when they protested two years ago the students were exploited by political forces.

The program then continues with a recording of Antall's comments. He says:

"The university students are right in general—just as the entire country is—when complaining about declining living standards or the emerging difficulties. By raising—by 500 forints per head—the sum that may be allocated to students so that, in emergency fashion, the administration is spending—in the extraordinarily difficult budgetary circumstances—a sum exceeding 150 million forints—well, it could be said that the budget tried to help beyond its means." Antall denies that overall the per capita spending on students is declining.

He continues: "School and university students have always been the catalyst of society and it has always been the university students who formulated their demands most sharply. In other words, what we are talking about now is not that the university students have a worse situation in the country. No, but they are the ones who express their situation in most marked fashion.

"The government, however, must represent all social interests and, in this respect, if it were to start the financial assistance—which is incidentally beyond its means—to a particular group or stratum, then naturally the other category too would demand the same." Antall concludes by stating that students should be the first to recognize that the government's poor financial situation is the fault of the previous regime.

Antall Meets Journalists, Media Representative

LD2709113890 Budapest MTI in English 1019 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Budapest, September 26 (MTI)—Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall met a delegation of the International Press Institute (IPI), which is currently paying a visit to Hungary under the leadership of General Secretary Peter Galliner and President Per-Erik Lonnforst.

Jozsef Antall met British press baron Robert Maxwell in his office on Wednesday afternoon.

On the invitation of the Hungarian Journalists' Union (HJU) [MUOSZ], Jozsef Antall held an informal consultation with members of the HJU board, editors-in-chief of dailies and weeklies, radio, television and news agency representatives, and the Glasnost Club.

Concerning the tense relationship between the press and the government, Antall said that conflicting political views and interests were in the background. He said he had not come to the meeting as an opponent and still less as an enemy.

A sizeable number of Hungarian journalists feel let down by the governing parties. The government, however, does not, and will not, seek to restrict the freedom of the press, he said.

The prime minister blamed the situation on the lack of sophisticated press laws and the frequent debates on press privatization.

Prime Minister Meets Publishing Manager

LD2809191990 Budapest MTI in English 1719 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Budapest, September 28 (MTI)—Prime Minister Jozsef Antall met Peter Tamm, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Axel Springer concern on Friday.

Also present at the meeting were Erhard van Straaten, member of the Axel Springer concern Board of Directors, and Jozsef Bayer, acting manager of the Axel Springer Budapest Publishing PLC.

Former Ambassador in Bucharest on Relations

AU2809104290 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 25 Sep 90 pp 1, 6

[Report on interview with Pal Szuts, former ambassador in Bucharest, by Tibor Eszes; place and date not given: "Our Former Ambassador in Bucharest Interviewed"]

[Excerpts] Pal Szuts was appointed ambassador in Bucharest five years ago, at a time of a deep crisis in Hungarian-Romanian relations. He could hardly hope for improvement, given the facts and processes prevailing at the time. What kind of changes could one hope for at the time?

[Szuts] Could feel that a change was inevitable? I would say that we expected a change every fall and winter.

[Eszes] To whom do you refer when you use the plural form?

[Szuts] All those who were seriously engaged in politics and wanted progress. There were many among those who served the old regime who lived on very small salaries and felt the burden of the Ceausescu regime every day. People who were thinking and people who could travel abroad and had the opportunity to compare things knew that the change would eventually come. It is true that those who opposed the dictatorship had very little opportunity to organize. The greatest spontaneous opposition action took place in 1987 with the uprising of the workers in Brasov. Many people disappeared when this uprising was quelled, and we do not know where these people are to this very day. Others could not stand the suffering in prisons and died there, or a few days after "being released", as a result of the cruel beatings. There were some opposition groups among the intellectuals too, but this was no organized opposition.

[Eszes] The explosion, however, took place last winter.

[Szuts] To a certain extent, the events of 22 December 1989 took almost everyone by suprise. Although most people were following Laszlo Tokes' heroic opposition against authority and the servile leadership of the Presbyterian Church with great attention, nobody dared to think that this would lead to a national movement. [passage omitted]

[Eszes] Budapest was seeking opportunities for cooperation almost from the very beginning....

[Szuts] It is almost without parallel that, in such a situation when there were no institutions and leaders, and when the foreign minister had just been appointed, we succeeded in arranging the arrival of the Hungarian foreign minister in two days. Gyula Horn held talks in Bucharest on 29 December on settling our bilateral issues. These talks were extremely cordial and every member of the new leadership made a favorable impression; we felt that they also wanted changes in our relations.

Unfortunately, this did not last long. I would not even blame primarily the Romanian leadership for this. At most, I can blame them for failing to resist the pressure. An organized opposition against improving relations with the Hungarians emerged very quickly, and, perhaps because of their weakness, the new leadership could not stand up to this pressure. [passage omitted]

[Eszes] Did this change also come quickly on the official level?

[Szuts] As early as in the first week of January 1990, we came to realize that there would hardly be any change in the attitude of the Romanian leadership toward Hungary, at least in the short term. [passage omitted]

[Eszes] The Vatra Romaneasca won a relatively small number of votes in the elections. How is this organization able to maintain, and even increase, its influence on the Romanian Government?

[Szuts] They won a very small percentage in the elections, but there are people in key positions among the members of this organization, like former Securitate officers taken over by the Army. There are many Vatra members among the urban intellectuals, too.

[Eszes] They also require a receptive audience.

[Szuts] People who have become used to coexisting with the national minorities do not buy the Vatra-nationalism. Hundreds of thousands of Romanians, however, were settled in Transylvania in the years of forced industrialization, and the idea of coexistence is totally new for them. This must also be the root of the events in Marosvasarhely [Tirgu Mures]. The masses of less educated Romanians recently settled in Transylvania fear that they will lose their jobs and will have to go back to the poor areas. [passage omitted]

[Eszes] You met with President Iliescu several times. What are your impressions?

[Szuts] His attitude and way of thinking made a good impression on me. In my view, we could—and should—negotiate with him, even if, to a certain extent, he cannot escape from the pressure himself. [passage omitted]

Kadar, Katushev Hold Talks on Troop Withdrawal

Outstanding Issues Unresolved

LD2809140990 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Andras Domany report]

[Text] Contrary to original plans, Katushev, Soviet minister of foreign economic relations, and his delegation did not leave Budapest this morning, but will stay until the afternoon, said Bela Kadar, minister of international economic relations. Discussions connected with the Soviet troop withdrawals are dragging out, and even at this moment it is not certain whether they will manage to sign some kind of protocol.

The Hungarian Government's standpoint remains unaltered—namely, that accounting can take place only at the end of the entire troop withdrawal, because the usability of the various installations and buildings, how much has to be deducted for depreciation, and for what damage the Soviet side will have to pay, will have to be determined. Only after all these points have been calculated will it be possible to draw up any kind of account.

Of course, wider economic relations also came up, with particular regard to oil deliveries. Minister Bela Kadar said, quite simply, that it is not presently known what the future of the deliveries will be, how this oil tap—which is shut off and then reopened daily—will behave in the future. Neither is it known whether the interruptions are caused by the Soviet Union's real production and transport difficulties, or simply by the fact that with today's oil prices it is more worthwhile to sell in the West, or, I quote: whether all this could be connected with something else as well. Therefore, we have no way of knowing this. The Soviet minister of foreign economic relations may well be here, but we could get no reply to this. For this reason, Bela Kadar emphasized that at all events the Hungarian economy's energy requirements and defenselessness will have to be reduced drastically and within a short time.

Soviets To Pay for Environmental Damage

LD2809153190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Andras Domany now reports on a very fresh item of news—namely, the tug-of-war which now finally seems to be ending surrounding the Hungarian-Soviet discussions on the withdrawal of Soviet troops.

[Domany] Konstantin Katushev, Soviet minister of foreign economic relations, extended his stay in Budapest and early this afternoon, contrary to earlier appearances, they did, after all, manage to sign a protocol with International Economic Relations Minister Bela Kadar. In this protocol, the Soviet side, for the first time, agrees that the environmental damage that the Soviet troops have caused will have to be compensated, and that experts will examine the amounts. The Hungarian side, on the other hand, has recognized that the value of the installations constructed by Soviet investments—and which are utilizable—will somehow have to be included in the account, but the Hungarian side continues to insist that it will only pay at the end of the entire accounting process. This, then, is a protocol which determines further tasks, but compared to the former fairly noncommittal Soviet stance, it is at all events a new development.

Economic Talks With USSR 'Promising'

LD2809210390 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The withdrawal of Soviet troops and the economic cooperation of Hungary and the Soviet Union are two separate issues. This has been signaled by Bela Kadar, minister of external economic relations, at his news conference following his negotiations with his Soviet counterpart Katushev. The going is slow in the military dialogue, but the economic negotiations are more promising. Gyorgy Toth reports:

[Toth] It is the first issue—troop withdrawl—that the Soviet side is willing to take into account when evaluating assets the depreciation of the buildings they used and the environmental damages. The essence of the differences of views is material-financial. The delay of oil deliveries has also been raised. This endangers the functioning of the Hungarian economy. The need to make up for the 1 million tonnes shortfall burdens us with a severe loss in dollars.

What is more, the Soviets can say only at the end of October what they want to buy from Hungary. In the view of some this suggests a departure from the Soviet market.

[Begin (?Kadar) recording] Such a statement has never been made. The Soviet Union is in our neighborhood. It delivers raw materials which are a matter of life or death for Hungary, semi-processed goods, on occasion durable consumer goods, and it is also our largest natural market for industrial goods. [end recording]

[Toth] The Soviet Union does not want to reduce the lively economic links built up with the Hungarians. Katushev stated this in an interview given to "Newsreel." It does not want to do this so much that in the negotiations it was not primarily the military but rather the commercial issues which came to the fore, as can also be proved by the generals. Because, despite expectations and doubts to the contrary, the protocol fixing the agenda of the negotiations was signed in the early afternoon.

Kadar, Katushev Discuss Financial Aspects

LD2809212890 Budapest MTI in English 1744 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Budapest, September 28 (MTI)—"The Hungarian-Soviet talks launched on Monday [24 September] over current issues focusing on bilateral economic links are not over yet," Bela Kadar, minister of international economic relations and head of the Hungarian delegation, told the press in Budapest on Friday [28 September].

The agenda of the talks held with the Soviet delegation headed by Konstantin Katushev, minister of external economic affairs, included two major themes: financial questions related to the Soviet troop withdrawal and the future of business ties.

Kadar said that the talks had only seen limited rapprochement in the respective positions over the Soviet pull-out. Hungary did not agree with the Soviet view that accounts should be settled continuously, on the grounds that the required information is not yet available. In a new development, the Soviet side showed readiness to survey the damage caused to property and the environment.

As to the future of economic relations, the Hungarian view was that they should be placed on a new footing in view of the altered circumstances. However, Kadar warned that the unpredictable ups and downs in Soviet oil deliveries were unsuited to provide the stability necessary for both sides.

The effects that the switch to convertible accounting is likely to have on the Hungarian economy were widely covered at the talks. The Soviets contradicted the Hungarian allegation that the switch, however promising on the medium and long term, could initially cause Hungary economic losses to the tune of 1,000-2,000 million dollars, a sum which should be compensated with Soviet help.

Lieutenant General Antall Annus, a government commissioner, told journalists that the Soviet troops were leaving Hungary according to schedule, with little more than 30,000 Soviet soldiers in country at the moment. Moreover, he denied rumors that the Hungarian Army is buying technical equipment from the departing army.

Bela Kadar will hold another press briefing about the outcome of the talks on Friday evening.

Kadar Details Protocol on Withdrawal

LD2909082790 Budapest MTI in English 0650 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Budapest, September 28 (MTI)—The five-day ministerial talks on the economic aspects of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary ended in Budapest on September 28th with the signing of a protocol, Bela Kadar, minister of international economic relations, said.

In the protocol, the Hungarian side expressed its readiness to pay compensation for all projects that were built by the Soviet troops stationed or still stationed here and that would be utilized by Hungary. Of course, moral and physical amortization will be considered.

The Soviet side has pledged itself to pay for the damage due to pollution caused by Soviet troops. To survey the extent of pollution, an expert team will be set up.

The two sides are to examine the possibility of setting up joint ventures for utilizing the projects, and do not object to the involvement of third parties. The sides expressed common interest in continuing the talks on the disputed financial and economic issues. They declared that these talks should be completed as soon as possible, and not later than the deadline of the Soviet troop withdrawal in the summer of 1991.

The two delegations declared that a new relationship should be established with the interests of the two countries taken into consideration to the maximum extent.

Antall Plans To Meet Gorbachev 'Within Weeks'

LD2909133690 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0400 GMT 29 Sep 90

[By special correspondent Peter Zentay in Uzhgorod]

[Excerpts] The Hungarian president has now publicly announced that he will return within weeks to the Soviet Union, or rather to Russia, to meet with Gorbachev. During his negotiations yesterday, both in Kiev and Uzhgorod, Arpad Goncz spoke about an independent Ukraine. He signaled that Hungary will be the first foreign state to establish diplomatic relations on an ambassadorial level with the Ukraine Republic. It is presumed that he wants to ask Gorbachev's blessing for this.

The visit by the Hungarian guest has evoked a special enthusiasm from the Magyars here, among whom many refer to Arpad Goncz as our Mr. President. Therefore, Mr. President considered it as necessary to say to the Ukrainian leaders of the Sub-Carpathian region that we are at one with the Magyars here in terms of feeling and culture, but nonetheless they will be loyal citizens of an independent Ukraine. [passage omitted]

'Panic' Reported Over Two-Week Gasoline Supplies

LD2809163290 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1515 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] There is a storm at the CPN [Petroleum Products Board] gasoline stations. A national report in the GAZETA WYBORCZA proves that Gdansk is really the only town not in the grip of the energy panic following Wednesday's information in the news that reserves were enough for two weeks, and that the next delivery of gasoline to Poland by tanker will cost twice as much.

Walesa Campaigns at Polish Broadcasting House

AU2809084290 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 24 Sep 90 p 2

[Report by Wlodzimierz Slowinski and Irena Popoff: "A Visit to Woronicz Street"]

[Text] "Lech Walesa is bringing Andrzej Bobor into the building," said the "Solidarity" representatives and radio and television employees assembled in Studio 1 of the television building on Saturday. The "Solidarity" chairman's entry into the building accompanied by Andrzej Bobor, who had been dismissed from the post of television director general a few days earlier, was shown on a screen several meters wide in the studio.

Walesa commenced the meeting. He recalled his first visit to the television studios in order to hold a discussion with Alfred Miodowicz [National Trade Union Confederation chairman]. "That meeting was quite successful, and I hope this one will be as well," he said.

Further on, Walesa said: "Entire generations fought for the kind of Poland we are now capable of producing. They gave their lives, and suffered in prisons. Now, if you fail to use this chance together with me and the rest of us, our grandchildren will really speak badly of us. Therefore do not look at the obstacles, the internal obstacles and brakes. You have to overcome them. You have to jump over them, push them aside. I have been told that there are people who are trying to prevent you from negotiating these obstacles and doing what you think is best. The old system used to take advantage of information for its own purposes. We have abandoned this in every sphere. Information is the most important thing. You have to return to Poland with interest all the time that has been wasted and all the hours of silence. It is you who are shaping new concepts and visions. You can help, and you can destroy."

After this, Walesa answered questions from radio and television employees. He admitted that the lack of aid and subsequent closure of the "Solidarity" studio in 1989 was a mistake, which is particularly evident today. "There is no change to information. I will do everything to help you."

Asked to comment on remarks by Senator Andrzej Wajda, who had called for the privatization of television, Walesa said that the existing television channels should be reformed following consultations with the employees, and these channels cannot be sold off. Information must be changed as quickly as possible by means of suitable legislation.

Walesa recalled that when he talked of acceleration in March, he was laughed down. And yet everyone is talking about it today. The decrees he then proposed were not aimed against democracy. "A great issue was made of this matter, and this was the handiwork of the very people who are interfering with you today," said Walesa. "But I will get around to them."

The day before the meeting with the primate, Walesa, afraid of suspicions that he was entering into some secret deal, decided to announce his presidential candidacy. "I made the announcement first, so that others could fight me, instead of me fighting them. And things began to move."

Asked whether he would receive the symbols of office from the hands of President Kaczorowski [president of the Polish government-in-exile in London], Walesa said that the authorities of an independent Poland are continuously in power. "If I am elected, I am ready to send an aircraft at my own expense to pick up both presidents-in-exile and bring them back to Poland together with their check books," he joked.

"If I did not receive 50 satellite television channels, where would I obtain information about you? I learn far more about you from satellite television than I do from Polish television." Remarks like that, representing various accusations vis-a-vis the information on Polish Television, were made quite frequently during the meeting. "Let me win the election first, and then I will sort that business out," was the "Solidarity" chairman's reply.

In a lengthier statement interspersed with boos and whistles, Andrzej Drawicz, chairman of the Radio and Television Committee, told Walesa that Polish Television was granting Walesa concessions that were unheard of in any other television station, and Walesa's press office has been granted broad possibilities of producing television material about him. Drawicz said that Walesa will be just one of several candidates during the presidential campaign, and will be treated on the same terms as the rest.

Chairman Drawicz said that "the situation inside the Radio and Television Committee is more or less normal" and that he would "not implement any acceleration." About 80 percent of the directors have been dismissed, and every foreign correspondent has been replaced.

The Solidarity chairman said that from what he had heard today, he should have no trouble winning, and he is convinced he can count on Chairman Dawicz's respect when president.

'Sources' Say Mazowiecki To Run for Presidency

LD2809135490 Warsaw PAP in English 1154 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 28—Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki was intensively questioned by journalists during his Spanish visit on whether he planned to run for presidency in Poland. He kept saying that Polish matters should be discussed in Poland, writes SZTANDAR MLODYCH today.

According to the paper, however, credible sources say that Mazowiecki must have passed a word in an interview with EL SOL admitting he had decided to run for the office of Polish president.

* * * *

Barcelona (PAP)—At a press conference before his departure for New York Mazowioecki voiced satisfaction with the visit and talks with Prime Minister Gonzalez and King Juan Carlos.

Pressed by the newsmen asking if the passing time had brought him any closer to the decision on running but he hoped to find some unconventional solution. When asked whether after such a long time of not having said "no" a "no" is still possible, Mazowiecki said it is—to a tiny extent. He added that it is difficult to distinguish the functions of prime minister and potential presidential candidate, but since this had happened before....

Further Mazowiecki said that many state and government leaders would be in New York and hoped to meet some of them and discussed selected important questions with them.

ROAD Nominates Mazowiecki for President

LD3009174190 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1700 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] At a meeting of the founding council of the Citizens Movement Democratic Action [ROAD] in Warsaw, resolutions on nominating Tadeusz Mazowiecki for president, on parliamentary elections, which according to ROAD ought to be held at the latest in April next year, on local self-government, and on German-Polish relations were unanimously adopted. The opening of the electoral campaign and the collecting of signatures in the coming days was announced. It is known from unofficial sources that the national electoral committee of ROAD and other organizations connected with the Alliance for Democracy is to constitute itself next Wednesday.

Sejm Debates Election Law, Gulf, Other Issues

Listens to Persian Gulf Report

LD2809092990 Warsaw PAP in English 0809 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 28—The Sejm resumed debates several minutes after 9:00 a.m. here today.

As expected, the debates were opened by a government report on Poland's stand on the Persian Gulf conflict, delivered by Deputy Foreign Minister UJan Majewski.

Considers Election Law

LD2809145790 Warsaw PAP in English 1401 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 28—The Sejm resumed examination of the parliamentary election law and connected with it constitutional changes. These documents were considered at the previous meeting but the Sejm did not then adopt any decisions whether to send the bill to respective committees.

The Sejm today decided that the bill would be examined by the Constitutional Committee. It will also consider the proposed resolution of the Democratic Party's floor group on a referendum that would be held simultaneously with the presidential elections.

The referendum would concern issues such as the electoral system, the structure of parliament, and Poland's political system.

The proposed law on referendum sparked a controversy. The Citizens Parliamentary Club [OKP] (Solidarity) deputies proposed to reject it arguing that the referendum could delay the termination of the term of the Sejm.

Other objections were that the adoption of the referendum resolution should be preceded by a decision what questions are to be asked of society. This point was made by Deputy Aleksandr Malachowski of the OKP.

Deputy Anna Dynowska (SD) [Democratic Party] said that amendments to the law on social consultations can be promptly carried out and will not be a barrier to holding a referendum.

"The authorities must not be afraid of their people," said Deputy Jan Wrobel of the Polish Social Democratic Union. "Only under the dictatorship of the proletariat a group of people decided on behalf of the entire nation," he added. It is an unfair trick to make people answer questions which they do not understand, said Deputy Jacek Szymanderski (OKP).

Votes on Abortion Decision

LD2909164490 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1515 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Excerpts] How is it done in other countries? A woman in Italy can terminate a pregnancy up to the 12th week inclusively, and on the demand of each mother. In France the law allows a pregnancy to be terminated up to the 10th week. In Great Britain an abortion can be carried up to the 24th week of pregnancy. In Sweden, up to the 18th week, and it is a free decision for women. And we Poles, we are returning to Europe.

The number one subject of today's Senate debate was a draft law on the legal protection of the conceived child.

It is an initiative of that very chamber of parliament. Seventy-six, including eight women, senators signed the draft. The average age of the initiative group is 55. Six of the senators are over 70 years old.

The first open vote today revealed that 56 people among those present in the chamber were in favor of taking up that legislative initiative. Nineteen were against, and one abstained. The senators also voted on whether the draft was to anticipate the liability to punishment of the mother, as well as to whether it was to take into consideration the liability to punishment of doctors and ancilliary personnel. The majority of the 58 [as heard] members of the chamber were opposed to the liability of women. [passage omitted] The Senate, however, came out in favor of punishing doctors and ancilliary personnel. [passage omitted]

Allows Land for Foreigners

LD2909184690 Warsaw PAP in English 1655 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 29—At its meeting today, the Sejm adopted an amendment motioned by the Senate, and resolved that foreigners will be allowed to buy nonarable land which is the property of the state budget or of communities.

The Sejm also adopted an amendment which creates possibilities for former owners of real estates, taken over by collective farms and other organizations, to regain their property.

Senate Meets To Discuss Daily Agenda

Discusses Budget, Election Laws

LD2809124390 Warsaw PAP in English 1127 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 28—The Senate started a meeting here today with the daily agenda including the examination of a correction to the budgetary law and discussion on the role of the Senate in the system of state bodies, the election law regarding the Senate and the chamber's regulations.

Also, the Senate will continue discussion on the draft law on legal protection of conceived child.

Approves Election Procedures

LD2809210190 Warsaw PAP in English 1820 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 28—The Senate unanimously decided today that elections to the Senate should be held in tune with the current electoral law, that is that which was in force during the June 1989 elections.

As was the case in previous elections, residents of each voivodship would elect two senators except for the Warsaw and Katowice Voivodships which would be represented by three senators each. Elections to the Senate would be held together with the elections to the Sejm (lower house).

Welcomes Unified Germany

LD2909185290 Warsaw PAP in English 1703 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept.—The Senate resolved to address the following statement to the chairman of the Bundesrat:

"The Senate of the Republic of Poland greets with a friendly attention and respect the united Germany, which on October 3 will become our Western partner. The Senate expresses its conviction that the future of Poland and Germany will develop in a friendly way and the peaceful cooperation within the democratic and ever more integrated Europe will bring benefits to both our nations and to the whole continent."

Ratifies Modified Abortion Law

LD2909212890 Warsaw PAP in English 1856 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept 29—The Senate (upper house) decided today to come out with a legislative initiative concerning the law to protect conceived life. The Senate voted 50 to 17 with five abstentions to approve a draft law proposed by a Senate committee.

In tune with the modified draft law a mother of a conceived child who directly causes the death of the conceived child, inclines or cooperates in the termination of pregnancy would not face legal prosecution.

All others who cause the death of a conceived child would face up to two years of restricted liberty. The draft law allows for the termination of pregnancies resulting from a crime and when a woman's life is in danger.

The Senate also adopted a resolution in which it demanded from the government and public institutions to take up educational steps aimed to improve the standard of living of families and single mothers and to propagate knowledge on family planning.

Krakow Social Democrats Oppose Abortion Bill

LD3009175190 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1700 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] The Presidium of the Social Democracy of the Polish Republic Voivodship Council in Krakow has issued a statement in which it opposes the ban on abortion and the restriction on the rights of women to decide about their own lives and the free choice of motherhood. The draft law to ban abortion, in the opinion of the statement's authors, is surprising because it is contrary to the international conventions on the liquidation of all forms of discrimination against women, and making abortion a crime cannot by itself regulate a problem which concerns morality.

Socialist Parties Unify, Issue Abortion Statement

LD3009225690 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2200 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] The four socialist parties that are undergoing unification—the Polish Socialist Party [PPS], led by Jan Jozef Lipski; PPS Abroad [PPS Na Obczyznie]; PPS-Temporary National Committee; and PPS-Democratic Revolution—have appointed a joint commission which will represent them externally.

In the resolution adopted by the parties the PPS joint commission states that the Senate's draft law on abortion strikes at the basic rights of a woman and is an infringement of human rights. The resolution stresses that the solution of this social issue by means of a legal system of punishment should be regarded as a return to a totalitarian system of thinking.

Women Demonstrate Against Anti-Abortion Law

LD2909171290 Warsaw PAP in English 1601 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 29—Several Polish women's associations staged a three-hour demonstration outside the seat of Polish parliament to protest against a proposed anti-abortion law.

During the manifestation, protesters were able speak for a short while with several senators, including Edward Wende, Walerian Piotrkowski and Andrzej Szczypiorkowski who presented their stands on the issue.

Protestors, chiefly women, argued that there is a bigger need for greater responsibility and improvement of living conditions than there is for a new law.

Citizens Committees Establish Christian Movement

LD0110085190 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0400 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Representatives of more than 50 citizens committees have established the Citizens Christian Movement [Chrzescijanski Ruch Obywatelski]. The movement will rally that part of the Citizens Movement which adopts Christian and patriotic values as its base.

The movement intends to set up election committees for Lech Walesa.

Democratic Party Officials Resign From Party

LD2909205590 Warsaw PAP in English 1944 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 29—Deputy Prime Minister Jan Janowski and former head of the Democratic Party (DP) floor group Tadeusz Bien resigned from their top posts in the party. Similar resignation was forwarded by Deputy DP Chairman Krzysztof Zareba, during today's meeting of DP's Central Committee.

DP Chairman Aleksander Mackiewicz forwarded a motion to hold a vote of confidence for him and for respective members of the Presidium of DP's Central Committee. In a secret vote, three Presidium members did not score the required number of votes. The Central Committee appointed two new committee deputy chairmen Jerzy Bartnik and Jerzy Robert Nowak.

The Central Committee also decided to move its extraordinary congress, planned for the second half of November, two months after parliamentary elections.

Farmers Solidarity Announces National Protest

LD2909213290 Warsaw PAP in English 1915 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 29—The National Council of the Solidarity of Private Farmers decided here today to announce a protest alert across Poland in connection with the lack of satisfactory results of talks concerning the procurement prices of sugar beet and potatos.

The National Council also passed a resolution, at a motion of the audit commission, in which it advised to hold an extraordinary congress in the Szczecin Voivodship to the end of November.

Onyszkiewicz Comments on Defense Policy Options

AU2809081490 Warsaw ZOLNIERZ RZECZYPOSPOLITEJ in Polish 24 Sep 90 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Janusz Onyszkiewicz, deputy minister of national defense, by Janusz Grochowski; place and date not given: "A Policy of Equal Closeness"]

[Text] [Grochowski] Looking at your foreign visits—Holland, Spain, and especially France and Great Britain—one has the impression that Poland is trying to reestablish its old military alliances.

[Onyszkiewicz] This would be a wrong impression. It so happens that I started my foreign visits with a trip to Moscow. This should not be interpreted as an affirmation of the satellite-like relationship we had in the past. Recently, I flew from Prague to London. I would not say that close links with East European states are worth continuing in all their forms. Obviously, these forms have to be changed and given a new content, but they must not be completely abandoned. We need to balance them by introducing "another pillar" through the creation of similarly good contacts in the West. Hitherto, we have clearly lacked these.

[Grochowski] From the legal and formalistic point of view, the 1939 Polish-British military alliance is still valid, thus these contacts existed.

[Onyszkiewicz] At one international conference I was handed a long list of treaties (all signed before 1939, but still formally valid) signed by various East and West European countries—not just with Poland. If one were to look at these from the formal and legal point of view then it would appear that we are already a member of the EC and we already have all the necessary trade and political agreements! I think we must be realistic and accept that these treaties have all lost their validity.

[Grochowski] Is there a possibility that we shall sign new ones?

[Onyszkiewicz] We should not delude ourselves about bilateral alliances, such as the former alliance between Poland and Britain. Great Britain is now in a wider treaty organization, namely, NATO. However, there are opportunities for closer cooperation. I noted great readiness to establish such contacts. Shortly, we shall present a list of various proposals and—bearing in mind our financial capabilities—the most promising of these will be selected.

[Grochowski] The Polish Government's openness to the West may cause suspicion among our old partners and an obvious consequence would be to shut ourselves off from the East.

[Onyszkiewicz] I will quickly say that this is not so. But let us not start off with fears. Following developments in Europe, one can clearly discern that in the Soviet Union there is a fear—whose origins come from the experiences of the last war—of possible aggression from West Europe, especially Germany. This fear is reciprocal. The West believes that the Soviet Union will remain a strong state—it will certainly remain strong militarily and in future it will also be strong economically—and thus it could be a potential threat.

Poland lies directly in the middle. If our policy convinces both West and East that our country will never be a springboard for aggression, either eastward or westward, then we shall have made a great contribution to European security. It is in Europe's interest for Poland to be a strong, stable state that is friendly towards both sides. Here lies our great political opportunity.

[Grochowski] What you say recalls the prewar policy of Jozef Beck who also wanted to maintain good relationships with Poland's two neighbors. Regrettably, the results were disastrous.

[Onyszkiewicz] Beck's policy was based on maintaining equidistance between the two. We are proposing a policy of equal closeness. You must agree that is not the same.

[Grochowski] Is such a policy possible with our phobias!

[Onyszkiewicz] In the West they say that the Poles cannot decide whom they fear most, the Germans or the Russians. These fears exist and we should not be surprised this is so. Poland finds itself compressed between two areas of immense political change. In the West, we shall soon have a reunified Germany. In the East, either new state structures or an altered Soviet Union. In any case, it will be a completely different Soviet Union than hitherto. Polish apprehension is tinged with the feeling that these processes could bring decisive changes for the better. I think that acceptance of such changes testifies to Poland's readiness to invest in a different Europe, one without barriers and blocs.

[Grochowski] Do you share these fears?

[Onyszkiewicz] Up to a certain extent. One could call this caution. I remain convinced that for the foreseeable future Germany will not pose a military threat to Poland. I also think that the multitude of political tensions in the Soviet Union will not produce a situation that will become dangerous for us. Nevertheless, we have to be prepared for other eventualities. You know how it is, a father trusts his teenage daughter, but would still prefer that she returned home before eight.

[Grochowski] What should form the basis of our security?

[Onyszkiewicz] Above all, a system of various European links that would almost exclude the possibility of a large armed conflict. We should emulate West Europe. Despite their age-old antagonism, can one imagine a war between France and Germany? We should seek the same sort of guarantees in our part of the continent and throughout Europe, both political and economic. A whole web of integration links. However, this should not exclude the special role of the Armed Forces. One never knows how things will develop, especially in our part of Europe where there is a danger of various nationalisms. These could erupt in many ways.

[Grochowski] Through, for example, poverty.

[Onyszkiewicz] Of course, but also through overconfidence in one's relative strength compared to someone else, who might then be seen as easy prey. What one needs is not military might, but an effective army that will deter a potential aggressor. That is why, despite the winds of peace in Europe, I think that there is a place and a role for the Armed Forces. It is no coincidence that each country considers a strong army an essential (though not the sole) element of its security policy.

[Grochowski] The creation of a future system of European security is still far off, but there must already be several variants. Is there any similarity between them?

[Onyszkiewicz] In reality, there are no major differences. Everyone has agreed that this should take place through the CSCE process. The only divergences there could be, apply to the sequence governing the erection of this framework. In the West, the general, although not the only view, is that one should begin by creating a politically strong and coherent West Europe. Later, this structure could be extended to include other states, including Poland. But we do not want to find ourselves in a situation where we are merely offered a place in an already completed European home. We want to participate in the planning and the construction stage. If we are allowed to do so we will feel much more at home.

[Grochowski] What is to happen to the military blocs? The Warsaw Pact is now in the process of self-liquidation. Does the same fate await NATO?

[Onyszkiewicz] I did not see any strong desire to disband NATO. The West feels—correctly, I think—that abandoning oneself to something as untested and ineffective as the assembly of CSCE member states would be rather unwise. One does not discard something that has produced results, although in the future, NATO could be assimilated into a European security system. Additionally, it is thought that an American presence in Europe, which strengthens European stability, is assured by NATO. Germany is another factor, because a Germany within NATO and thus anchored in Europe, will not pose a threat, not even a psychological one.

[Grochowski] You say this with such conviction that one might assume that Poland shares this view.

[Onyszkiewicz] Absolutely. Right from the start we said that a reunified Germany should be in NATO. At that time our part of the world thought this was absolute heresy, but now it is accepted as an example of profound political insight.

[Grochowski] But do we not need "another pillar" that would balance the influence of NATO?

[Onyszkiewicz] I do not think it is necessary at present. We do not feel threatened by NATO countries. In a way, the balance is automatic, because the Soviet Union—now functioning in a nonbloc system and without the element of confrontation—remains a country of immense military strength. We want to get away from the scenario where a military pact can only exist where there is a clear-cut enemy. We will be able to organize other aspects of mutual cooperation. This is absolutely essential, because I do not think that countries which have recently regained their sovereignty, such as Poland, will want to give up even a small part of it to some supranational institution. That is why we wish to give the Warsaw Pact an unambiguously clear consultative character.

[Grochowski] If no binding decisions are to be taken by this forum then would it not be simpler to do away with this "discussion club" as Minister Niezabitowska has called it?

[Onyszkiewicz] This is undesirable for two, possibly three reasons. First, whether we like it or not, the concept behind the Vienna disarmament talks—when there were two strong blocs—was to achieve arms parity between the two sides. Regardless of the fact whether particular countries may still be bound to each other by a military pact, they will have to accept a collective arms quota ceiling that will undoubtedly emerge.

Second, it would be harmful if a political vacuum—caused by the lack of a political and military consultation platform—were to appear in East Europe. With the latent nationalisms, this could lead to tension between former allies. A forum that permitted discussion of specific political and military problems—leading to possible mediation—could prove very useful.

[Grochowski] What about the third reason?

[Onyszkiewicz] I think that the continued existence—only for a transitional period—of a thoroughly reformed Warsaw Pact, will enable various circles to adapt to the ongoing changes. This applies especially to the Soviet Union, which has to adjust and adapt psychologically to the new situation. The end of the Yalta era must not imply the exclusion of the Soviet Union from European affairs. It must remain a real, not just a theoretical partner in these talks. We cannot build a European home to the exclusion of nations living to the east of the Bug River.

[Grochowski] One suspects that discussions in such a club might be difficult, bearing in mind the Bratislava talks fiasco.

[Onyszkiewicz] It is not correct to say that nothing was achieved. We made progress in several important matters.

[Grochowski] But there is stalemate on the most important one.

[Onyszkiewicz] If it was simply a question of attaining these quota ceilings through extra economic performance the issue would not have assumed such importance. Given the bad economic situation, boosting expenditure on armaments would have simply been out of the question. However, the actual reality is different. The ceilings are so low that some military equipment will have to be destroyed to comply with them.

[Grochowski] Is it hard to destroy tanks and armored carriers?

[Onyszkiewicz] People realize that the Vienna agreement will not only last for one or maybe two years. It will be binding for a much longer period of time and if future defense requirements necessitate increasing armaments then the present quota ceilings may prove an obstacle. Obviously, nobody wants to commit themselves without thinking things through.

[Grochowski] Do the "appetites" of some countries exceed their present capacities?

[Onyszkiewicz] The "appetites" are sufficiently large and it will require a great sacrifices on the part of some countries to limit themselves within their quotas. The most important thing is to agree sufficiency clauses to avert any danger of domination by one country. For example, it has been decided that neither side can have more than 20,000 tanks in Europe. The Soviet Union is pointing to German reunification and stating that the Warsaw Pact is no longer solid. It wants to reserve 35 percent of the total quota of tanks for itself. The West is prepared to agree to 30 percent. The difference seems minimal, but in numbers, thousands of tanks are involved. If we accept the Soviet proposal it will mean that the Soviet Union will have 14,000 tanks and the rest of the Warsaw Pact member states will be left with 6,000 to divide among themselves. The West's variant gives us 8,000 tanks and we prefer it. In our talks we shall seek a compromise agreement.

[Grochowski] What figure would you be prepared to accept?

[Onyszkiewicz] It is too early to say, but I do believe that the quotas must guarantee our security and allow our armies to be well equipped. Of course, the proposed quotas fall far below what we already have.

[Grochowski] Will the apportionment of quotas established at Vienna be the Warsaw Pact's last joint operation? What will future military cooperation in our part of Europe look like, assuming there is to be any?

[Onyszkiewicz] Some military contacts that stem from the existence of the Warsaw Pact Armed Forces and Staff United Command structure will disappear when this structure is dissolved (as per Poland's proposal). Probably, we shall also pull out from joint military exercises, at least the large scale ones. However, I think that a large part of contacts can be maintained, for example, sending officers to foreign military academies, personal contacts, staff discussions—but not on operational planning—on general principles of military doctrines.

[Grochowski] Will this be reflected in bilateral agreements?

[Onyszkiewicz] Of course. We already have such agreements with Hungary and Czechoslovakia, but the old agreements cannot form the basis of further cooperation. They have to be altered in a way that does not obstruct the construction of a larger system of European collective security. The Elyssee Treaty between France and the FRG shows that this is possible and in fact it accelerates rather than hinders integration.

[Grochowski] Will these agreements also contain clauses on mutual military cooperation?

[Onyszkiewicz] The creation of new weapons systems is currently such a difficult, costly, and complicated process that no other country apart from the superpowers can think of undertaking this. We think that cooperation, especially with Czechoslovakia, could be fruitful and free us from the very uncomfortable position of being dependent on military equipment supplies from only one country. However, this is not our only direction or only form of economic cooperation. I see a possibility of purchasing at least part of our military equipment needs jointly with other countries as this would certainly mean we could negotiate lower prices. Also, it is worth thinking about establishing cooperation with NATO countries and we must not allow any psychological barriers to get in the way.

[Grochowski] Will the Coordnating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls be a barrier to this?

[Onyszkiewicz] There are certain branches of technology which are still not accessible to us, but there are not too many of them. Additionally, I think that even these may soon disappear on the condition that we do not export these products to countries that are prohibited by the manufacturer.

[Grochowski] Mr. Minister all this sounds like pie in the sky, or is there some rational basis for what you have just said?

[Onyszkiewicz] Yes and no. I would not want anyone to think that we are about to be engulfed by a flood of Western weaponry, because this is quite impossible for financial reasons. I will let you in on another painful secret. Our arms industry will shortly find itself in very difficult circumstances, because it will not be able to rely on substantial home orders, but this does not absolve us from thinking about the future. Production of military equipment is not something one set up in a few weeks.

[Grochowski] And trained people are needed to use this equipment.

[Onyszkiewicz] We want to keep sending our officers to military academies in the CSFR, Hungary, and the Soviet Union, although not to all the academies and perhaps not in such numbers as in the past.

[Grochowski] But these are minimal numbers. Approximately eight to 12 people annually.

[Onyszkiewicz] We cannot be expected to shut down our own academies and dispatch all our officers to the West, South, or East. There is no danger of a mass exodus, because of our financial situation. We have had offers from Great Britain, the United States, France and Canada, but whether we make use of these depends, to a large degree, on whether we obtain grants. The main criterion is the standard of the academy that has expressed a willingness to accept Poles. That is why at the beginning it will be more realistic to start with exchanges of lecturers and the organization of joint seminars. This is also an expression on our part to contribute to the building of mutual confidence.

[Grochowski] One increasingly hears of the need to create a new defense policy.

[Onyszkiewicz] This is a good sign. I think that in the very near future work will begin on a new defense doctrine. What factors should it take into account? First, we no longer have an obvious enemy. This means that we are not expecting a threat from any particular direction. Second, it would seem that the danger of an armed conflict between the superpowers no longer exists. However, it would be extremely risky to draw the wrong conclusions from this state of affairs and proceed to disband our Armed Forces. We have to take into consideration the danger of local tensions. Without a shadow of doubt the present deployment of our military units has to be altered and in part this is slowly being done. A serious change would entail enormous costs which the Polish state is just not able to meet. A transfer of a single division to a new location costs about a trillion zlotys.

[Grochowski] The presence of Soviet forces in Poland is a particularly sensitive issue. At present, the conditions concerning their stay in Poland are being renegotiated and this could give the impression that these troops will not be leaving Poland for some time.

[Onyszkiewicz] Even if they were to leave tomorrow it would still be useful to remove various loopholes in the agreements which in the past were imposed on us with our tacit agreement. This will not happen all that quickly, although we have often repeated that the presence of Soviet troops should be limited to a necessary minimum. In terms of time, it could mean one or two more years, but not more than that.

Dec 1970 Gdansk Events Investigation Launched

LD2809122390 Warsaw PAP in English 1006 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 28—Polish Justice Minister Aleksander Bentkowski has ordered the chief military prosecutor to start an investigation into the use of fire-arms by the army in Gdansk in December 1970.

The investigation will aim to explain all circumstances of these events and particularly to unequivocally establish who on the level of political and administrative central authorities gave an order to use fire-arms and who gave such an order on the level of immediate command.

The justice minister assumed his direct personal supervision over investigation into this case.

Jaruzelski Receives U.S. Ambassador Simons

LD2809172390 Warsaw PAP in English 1532 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 28—Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski received here today Ambassador of the United States to Poland Thomas Simons, who on behalf of U.S. President George Bush, conveyed to the Polish president thanks for his letter and words of full understanding for the decisions recalling his official visit to the United States.

The U.S. ambassador conveyed George Bush's best wishes for the Polish president and said that the U.S. president goes back with great satisfaction to both his Polish visits and that he is of the opinion that he will have an opportunity to meet with Wojciech Jaruzelski and to hold an interesting talk in the future.

The Polish president conveyed his thanks and best wishes for the President of the United States.

Mazowiecki Pays Official Visit to U.S.

Arrives in New York 28 Sep

LD2909015190 Warsaw PAP in English 2119 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 28—Poland's Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki arrived in New York from Barcelona today to attend ceremonies marking the anniversary of the UN Children's Rights Convention starting Saturday in the UN Headquarters.

According to Mazowiecki's closest aides, the prime minister will meet with President George Bush on Saturday. On that day, he is also to meet the secretary of state of the Holy See, Cardinal Agostino Casaroli.

Speaks at UN Conference on Children

LD0110005190 Warsaw PAP in English 2223 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] New York, Sept. 30—Seventy-two heads of state and government met at a session devoted to the fate of children at the UN Headquarters here today. Present was Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, who said this:

"I trust that the present summit will multiply international solidarity and common responsibility for all children in need of assistance. An important role in the financing of such assistance could be played by the schemes of what is known as the debt relief for child development. I believe that the problem must be solved in a manner which will satisfy all the parties concerned. It is not only of an economic but also moral significance as in many countries, including Poland, the repayment of foreign debt is done at the expense of the living standard of large numbers of families and their children.

"To support UNICEF in its efforts, the Government of Poland has resolved to increase the Polish contribution to the budget of that organization."

Talks With President Bush

LD2909215990 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2000 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, who is in New York attending a world summit on children at the UN Headquarters, had talks today with President George Bush. The talks were brief and their subject unknown. It seems, however, (?according to) the UPI Agency that they spoke, among other things, about the conflict in the Persian Gulf.

Assesses Meeting With Bush

LD3009184990 Warsaw PAP in English 1730 GMT 30 Sep 90

[By PAP correspondent Adolf Reut]

[Excerpt] New York, Sept. 30—Polish Prime Minsiter Tadeusz Mazowiecki met here last night with U.S. President George Bush. The meeting was held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel and lasted 45 minutes.

Asked to assess the talk, Mazowiecki said: "We had a long and good talk with President Bush in the presence of Secretary of State James Baker and National Security Adviser, General Brent Scowcroft. We touched upon all significant problems. We touched upon the issue of debt. In my opinion there is a great understanding of Polish affairs and a good evaluation of the political and economic development and progress in Poland."

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski and Ambassador Kazimierz Dziewanowski on the Polish side. [passage omitted]

Balcerowicz Returns From Washington Trip

LD2909143590 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1231 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] I perceive a significant difference between this latest visit to the United States and the visit a year ago, when I went there two weeks after the present government had been appointed. At that time, I could speak of Poland's intentions; this time, I presented the facts, said Deputy Prime Minister Leszek Balcerowicz on returning to Warsaw from Washington.

State Protection Delegation Ends Visit to Hungary

LD2709152190 Warsaw PAP in English 1439 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Budapest, Sept. 27—A delegation of the Polish State Protection Office [UOP] headed by its chief Andrzej Milczanowski ended its visit to Hungary today.

In talks with representatives of the Hungarian Office for National Security, the UOP delegation discussed cooperation especially in preventing terrorism. With representatives of the Hungarian Office of Information they exchanged experiences on organization and functioning of the analytical-information sectors of both services.

Statement Issued on Polish-German Borders

LD2909205190 Warsaw PAP in English 1940 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 29—The second nation-wide congress of the "Wisla-Odra" association elected Ryszard Ulicki as the organization's chairman and ended its two-day debates today.

In the statement adopted by the congress, its participants said that the association has always worked for friendly relations between Poland and the German states. However, now that the unification of Germany has materialized, they expressed their concern over the fact that on the German soil people and organizations are still active that openly question European borders and particularly the Polish-German border on the Odra and Nysa rivers [Oder-Neisse].

"The association is against attempts to use the idea of united Europe and future Polish-German cooperation to revise our Western border. We are also against the so called Europeanization of Poland's western and northern territories under the motto of economic cooperation which is actually meant to 'dissolve' the Odra-Nysa border-line and disintegrate Polish society," the statement reads.

Germany To Take Over GDR Consulates

LD2809110390 Hamburg DPA in German 1008 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Warsaw (DPA)—The united Germany will take over the consulates in Szczecin, Wroclaw, and Gdansk in Poland from the GDR. As was learned in Warsaw on Friday, another consulate is to be opened later in Krakow. On the other hand, the GDR Embassy in Warsaw will be closed and the building will no longer be used as a German diplomatic mission. The Goethe Institute is to be housed for the time being in the building previously used as the GDR Cultural Institute in Warsaw. Its opening in Poland was agreed a year ago. [passage omitted]

Polish-Indian Trade Protocol Signed

LD2809211590 Warsaw PAP in English 1822 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 28—A protocol on future conditions of economic cooperation between Poland and India was signed here today as a result of a meeting of the Polish-Indian mixed commission for economic, trade, scientific and technological cooperation.

Starting next year, both countries are going to shift from the clearing system of payments in favour of hard currency one which, combined with the limited abilities to credit Polish export, will to lead to a temporary fall in turnovers.

Last year, the value of mutual trade amounted to about 220 million dollars. Military equipment used to be a leading Polish export commodity to India, being valued at 61 million dollars in 1986 and 52 million dollars in 1987. Last year the sum fell to 15 million dollars.

Officials Attend, Participate in 45th UN Session

Iliescu Arrives in New York 28 Sep

AU2809141690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1321 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] New York, ROMPRES, 28/9/1990—The president of Romania, Ion Iliescu, has arrived in New York where he will address the United Nations General Assembly and take part in the UNICEF summit at the UN Headquarters at the end of the week.

President Iliescu is accompanied by experts and journalists from various publications, the radio and television, the ROMPRES national news agency.

On flying over the territories of Hungary, Austria, Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium, Great Britain, Ireland and Canada, telegrams were sent from aboard the plane to the heads of those states or to their heads of government, in line with diplomatic practice.

While in New York, Ion Iliescu will meet with various political leaders and United Nations high officials.

It is for the first time since the revolution that our country is represented at the highest political level in a world dialogue its representation at this level is also an expression that it pays to the debate of problems of world concern. The Romanian president will show to the international community the new face of Romania on its irreversible road to democracy, to new political, economic and social strictures. At the same time he will insist on the significance of opening our country to the world, on its part in international cooperation and the resolution of pressing problems confronting the world.

The Romanian head of state will state his support to the positive processes in the international life-the end of the cold war and the trend for cooperation on many matters and will plead for constructive realistic solutions apt to contribute to the maintenance of peace, to the assertion of international cooperation.

Iliescu Meets SFRY's Jovic

AU2809212190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2032 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] New York, ROMPRES, 28/9/1990—On Friday, Romania's President Ion Iliescu met in New York with the president of the Presidium of the SFR [Socialist Federal Republic] of Yugoslavia, Borislav Jovic.

The two heads of state paid special attention to aspects of great importance for the Romanian-Yugoslav collaboration, starting from the decisions made to this end during the Romanian president's recent visit to Belgrade. The two sides' readiness to know the mutual experience in accomplishing the economic reforms in other domains as well was reasserted.

The wish to take part in Balkan cooperation, the stimulation of multilateral cooperation in this geographical area are seen as an essential component of the all-European security and cooperation.

Starting from the items on the agenda of the current UN General Assembly session the president of Romania and the president of Yugoslavia showed their concern over the negative influences of the Gulf situation on their countries' economies, on the international life.

The two political leaders declared for an ever closer cooperation between Romania and Yugoslavia at the United Nations and in other international fora.

Iliescu, Bulgaria's Zhelev Meet

AU3009134890 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1900 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Telephone statements by Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev and President Ion Iliescu from the world UNICEF summit in New York; date not given—recorded; Zhelev speaks in Bulgarian with superimposed Romanian translation]

[Text] [Announcer] The world UNICEF summit meeting taking place at the UN headquarters in New York with the participation of 72 heads of state and governments, will conclude tomorrow night with the adoption of a generous world statement to the benefit of children and a plan of action for the current decade. From the headquarters of the world forum, here is a telephone dispatch from our correspondent Marian Dichiseanu:

[Begin recording] [Dichiseanu] It is 1250 hours local time here in New York. At 1000 hours, Romanian President Ion Iliescu met with Bulgaria's President Mr. Zhelyu Zhelev at the headquarters of the Romanian UN mission in New York. The meeting was attended by the foreign ministers of the two countries. After the meeting, the Romanian and Bulgarian presidents made the following statements:

[Zhelev] This was a very useful meeting, which just had to take place. This meeting revealed once more that the two sides have common interests in the decentralization of the economy and the transition to the market economy. Generally speaking, there are broad opportunities for using the resources available to the two countries. We jointly examined our general problems, including ecological ones.

[Iliescu] This was the first contact with President Zhelev. We did exchange some opinions and messages in the past, but this was the first direct, personal contact; I can say that the meeting was very positive, as it was based on mutual understanding and on the desire to lay new foundations to developing cooperation between our countries.

We briefly reviewed the main spheres of bilateral relations and the ways and means to consolidate these ties. We decided that, the joint mixed commission on economic relations should meet at the end of next October and take into account the changes which have occurred in our country and in neighboring Bulgaria; the commission should tackle concrete problems of our economic relations in 1991 and other issues pertaining to the legal framework our the future development of these ties and should facilitate an exchange of experience about economic reform progress in Bulgaria and Romania.

Because this meeting was also attended by the two ministers of foreign affairs, we conducted talks on several problems of mutual interest for the development of political, cultural, scientific, and parliamentary ties. Furthermore, we decided that the two ministries should review the concrete aspects of these ties so that, at a future high level meeting, we can examine the way in which some problems were resolved and how we should continue our cooperation in the future.

We also discussed issues pertaining to our cooperation within a Balkan framework and the contribution that Balkan countries can make to the all-European process. As you know, Bucharest recently hosted the meeting of Balkan deputy foreign ministers, which was positively assessed by everybody, and a Balkan meeting at foreign ministers level is scheduled to take place soon in Tirana. Everybody is interested in finding solutions to the problems of our region, that is the Balkans, where all the great European problems can be seen. These solutions may represent a useful and positive contribution made by the Balkan countries to the all-European process.

We also discussed aspects of the active cooperation between the Romanian and Bulgarian representatives in various international bodies. We came to the conclusion that there is a good cooperation between our representatives at the United Nations. We actually noted that we actively cooperate in all international bodies, in view of the many common problems we have, our similar approaches to these problems, and the mutual interest in an active cooperation at all levels. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Meets Officials

AU2909142890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1909 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] New York, ROMPRES, 28/9/1990—Romania's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Adrian Nastase, now in New York to attend the 45th session of the UN General Assembly, had interviews with his counterparts present at the session.

During the talks held with the Malaysian foreign minister, Datum Abu Hassan Hagi Omar, analysis was made of the evolutions in Eastern Europe following the political transformations in that area, of the future of Comecon, of political stability. The collocutor underscored the importance of setting up a bilateral legal framework for the Malaysian companies to have access on the Romanian market and to participate in the process of modernization and transition to the market economy in Romania. The Malaysian side proved a genuine interest deep economic and commercial relations. Reference was also made to a collaboration at the level of private enterprises for facilitating access on the markets in that region.

The Venezuelan minister of foreign affairs, Reinaldo Figueredo Planchart, in his capacity of coordinator of the "group in Rio de Janeiro", expressed his interest for developing the relations with Eastern European countries in general and with Romania in particular, for intensifying political contacts at various levels. The Romanian and Venezuelan ministers appreciated the bilateral relations as good but underscored that those relations should be substantiated.

The wish to intensify the political contacts and the economic ties between Ukraine and Romania was expressed during the interview between Foreign Ministers Anatoly Zlenko and Adrian Nastase, respectively. They started from the idea stressed by the Ukrainian side that the declaration of sovereignty of the Ukraine SSR and its new constitution represent the necessary legal framework for the development of their relations with other countries, with the neighboring ones in particular.

Iliescu Meets Italian Prime Minister

AU3009172090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1635 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 30/9/1990—Romania and Italy are two Latin European countries that can cooperate productively in all areas that is the conclusion of an interview between President Ion Iliescu of Romania and Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, held in New York on Saturday.

The talk highlighted possibilities to diversify the links between the two countries and to strengthen the Romanian-Italian cooperation in the international arena.

During the interview, emphasis was placed on Italy's postwar experience in the transition from dictatorship to democracy, in economic recovery and the development of a constant, constructive dialogue between ruling parties and the opposition.

As for the international life, highly important issues were approached in close correlation with the items in the agenda of the current UN General Assembly session. In context, stress was laid on the positive changes wrought in Central and Eastern Europe after the collapse of totalitarian regimes, and on their effect on the situation on the European continent as a whole.

The Romanian president and the Italian premier consider that the forthcoming summit of the CSCE participating countries goes down as an important moment in the life of our continent, in the efforts to build security and cooperation in this part of the world. As for the situation in the Gulf area, they highlighted the economic and political consequences of the crisis, with emphasis on the fact that a solution to that conflict resided in the application of the Security Council resolutions.

After the talks, Mr. Giulio Andreotti made the following statement to the Romanian press: I am very pleased to have had the opportunity to meet President Iliescu. I could note bilateral relations followed a fine course. And, in this respect, I should refer to the fact that, as the president of the EEC, Italy adopted a stance in favour of Romania during the debates on the signing of an accord on economic and commercial cooperation between the European Community and your country. Now we discussed some of the problems I previously tackled with Prime Minister Petre Roman.

Our foreign minister had an interesting interview with the Romanian minister of foreign affairs.

I hope I will welcome Mr. Iliescu to Italy next month. This could be a new opportunity to continue our talks on questions of interest to both Italy and Romania.

In his turn, Mr. Ion Iliescu said: Ours was a relaxed, very pleasant, warm and amiable discussion.

First of all, we thanked Italy for its consistent solidarity on a political, governmental and humanitarian level and, more particularly in European bodies where it supported Romania. We also thanked for Italy's activities, in its capacity as EEC president, in backing Romania in establishing economic relations with the European Community.

Mr. Andreotti showed broad openness and reiterated Italy's support to Romania on all planes so that Romania may make a complete entrance into Europe. He also showed full understanding of the situation and the complex changes in our country. He was very receptive to our suggestion that bilateral relations on all planes economic, political, cultural should develop, that Italy's experience should be shared. We must admit there are many interesting things in the Italian society's evolution after the war on a political plane, in the organization of political life, the overcoming of confrontation and the expansion of dialogue between all political forces and within a parliamentary and extraparliamentary framework, on the plane of local administration and within economic structures such, for instance, the coexistence of the private and public sectors. The prime minister's emphasis on the weight of small and medium-sized enterprises in the Italian economy may also go down as a useful, interesting experience. In this context, we expressed our wish to develop relations on all planes. Finally, he invited me to visit Italy in the near future. We will set the date of that visit by diplomatic channels and it will probably take place before the all-European meeting in Paris.

Foreign Minister Meets Counterparts

AU3009191390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1704 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 30/9/1990—Mr. Adrian Nastase, Romania's minister of foreign affairs, in New York to attend the UN General Assembly session, had further working interviews at the UN headquarters with his counterparts from Argentina, Australia, Cuba, Denmark, Belgium, Italy, Iran, Mongolia and Uruguay.

The foreign ministers of West-European countries and Australia expressed keen interest in recent developments in the Romanian society. Mr. Adrian Nastase referred to the government's concerns and to the steps the Parliament took to secure a transition to the market economy and to strengthen the democratic process.

In his interview with Gianni de Michelis, the current EEC president, stress was laid on Romania's stepped-up connection to West-European institutions. The Italian minister, just as the ministers of Australia, Belgium and Denmark, expressed keen interest in the works of the parliamentary commission inquiring into the June 13-15 events, expressing the hope that its conclusions would be made known the soonest possible.

The interviews with the foreign ministers of Argentina and Uruguay centered on ways to intensify bilateral relations, with emphasis on the importance those countries attached to the Romanian premier's forthcoming visit to states in the Latin American area, which are scheduled for late this year. The ministers expressed satisfaction at the prospect of creating a Latin American House in Bucharest, a project to which the Romanian minister referred at length during a working interview of the foreign ministers of East-European countries and of those of the Group of Rio, organized by the foreign minister of Venezuela on September 28.

The interviews with the foreign ministers of Mongolia and Cuba highlighted a joint wish to further develop bilateral links in the new conditions in the respective countries.

The interview with the Iranian minister centered on ways to further develop bilateral ties, on an economic plane in the first place, and was an opportunity for an extensive exchange of opinions on the Gulf crisis.

Iliescu Meets Turkish President

AU3009171690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1627 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 30/9/1990—In New York to attend the UN General Assembly session and a world conference devoted to the child, President Ion Iliescu of Romania and the president of Turkey, Mr. Turgut Ozal, decided to meet and discuss questions of mutual interest.

Their talks centered on the major components of bilateral cooperation, the opinions exchanged leading to important decisions along that line.

Cooperation in the Balkans, the all-European process and other major issues of the international life were approached.

In the opinion of the two heads of state, real possibilities exist for the links between Romania and Turkey to develop, all while the two countries make a sustained contribution to the international life.

At the end of their meeting, Mr. Ion Iliescu answered a number of questions on the content of the talks posed by Turkish journalists.

Referring to cooperation in the Black Sea, President Ion Iliescu said he fully shared that idea, which was advanced by Mr. Turgut Ozal. We consider that given the new circumstances and the changes in all countries, in the Soviet Union, Romania and Bulgaria, too, ever better conditions will be provided for the materialization of that idea, in perhaps simpler forms, for the development of free trade and of cooperation between various states. Agreeing that the legal system in Romania was not flexible enough, the Romanian president said a transition was being made to the market economy with the government and the parliament undertaking numerous activities to create a new legal system to meet the new conditions.

Asked whether Romania had required credits from Turkey, Mr. Iliescu said such an issue had been discussed in the Joint Economic Commission, where the Turkish side showed an open attitude.

Another question referred to the vocabulary employed during the talks with the Turkish president, Mr. Iliescu answered: We discussed very openly. We approached many issues in an open, friendly manner. Both sides consider fine conditions exist for the growth of bilateral and multilateral contacts.

He was asked whether the relations between Turkey and Greece had been approached, to which he answered: No, we did not tackle that aspect. We discussed the Balkans and our contribution to the development of relations in that area.

Answering a question on bilateral economic and political relations and the cooperation between Romania and Turkey in the international arena, Mr. Iliescu said: We consider there are fine conditions between our two countries, as we have no litigations. There is general interest in the development of our links as a whole. And we believe our fine political ties may go down as a contribution to the growth of relations in the Balkans, in Europe and in the world.

Several days ago in Bucharest we approached palpable aspects related to intensified economic relations on a governmental level. We tackled palpable aspects related to those links and we discussed specific proposals for their finalization. We are also interested in studying Turkish recent experience and Mr. Turgut Ozal's contribution to economic organization. At present we are going through a period of transition from an economy based on centralized planning to a market economy and turkey's experience is of interest to us.

In response to a questions referring to the consequences of the economic embargo on Iraq, President Iliescu said Romania and Turkey bore its nefarious effects. Politically, our two countries share the same stance. After the institution of the embargo both Romania and Turkey feel its economic consequences. So, for instance, Romania sustains losses worth three billion dollars as Iraq used to be one of its major oil suppliers and an economic partner as well.

As for the possibility of a military reaction, the president said Romania hoped military force would not be resorted to in the Gulf area.

The Romanian president was asked when he was going to visit Turkey, to which he answered that he had invited Mr. Turgut Ozal to pay a visit to Romania, which will probably take place early next year. A visit by the Romanian head of state to Turkey will follow that visit.

Iliescu Addresses New York Summit for Children

AU3009194390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1857 GMT 30 Sep 90

["President Ion Iliescu's Address at the New York Meeting"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] New York ROMPRES, 30/9/1990—"Those who remain insensitive to the problems of children have lost their confidence in the future of humanity. From this point of view, the meeting, the first in history, is a live proof that we are confident in the future," said Romania's President Ion Iliescu in his address at the world summit for children in New York on September 30.

Showing that Romania had inherited a dramatic situation from past regimes, a large part of its children, the orphans and the handicapped in the first place, having been neglected, Mr. Ion Iliescu said the Romanian people's effort to end that situation had enjoyed the support of friendly countries and expressed gratitude for that act of solidarity.

The Romanian head of state said that Romania had recently ratified the convention on the rights of the child and announced that the new Romanian legislation, which is being worked out, would accord with international standards.

Cooperation Protocol Signed With Soviets

AU2809142390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0925 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 28/9/1990—The Romanian-Soviet dialogue held in Moscow where a Romanian delegation led by Anton Vatasescu, minister of state for industry and trade, attended the Intergovernmental Romanian-Soviet Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation, ended Thursday [27 September] in a protocol signed by the co-chairman of the commission the document confirms the agreement of the sides to put a new mechanism of cooperation to work beyond 1990, to make payments in convertible currency as of 1 January 1991 on the basis of current world prices and on such terms as are used in international trade.

Unlike other "protocols" which were opportunities for "festivities" said the Romanian minister and the head of the Soviet delegation P.I. Mostovoy, vice-chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, this one is an organizational document apt to promote good economic relations. It should be regarded only as a premise for growing bilateral exchanges now and in future.

Arrears in the delivery of commodities to the USSR were shown to have changed Romania's balance of payments with the USSR from a 238 million rubles surplus on 1 January 1990 to a 253 million rubles deficit on 11 September 1990.

Highlighting the significance of the Moscow talks, Anton Vatasescu said they set the lines for economic cooperation between the two countries during their transition to market mechanisms.

Minister Vatasescu on Relations With USSR

AU2809203990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1723 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 28/9/1990—Mr. Anton Vatasescu, minister of state in charge of industry and trade questions, co-chairman in the Romanian-Soviet Intergovernmental Commission for Economic and Technical-Scientific Cooperation, back from a visit to Moscow where he discussed with a Soviet economic delegation, stated: I have returned from Moscow more of an optimist than when I left and I'm referring above all to Soviet delivery of natural gas, oil, electric power, iron ore, cotton, coal, and many other highly important goods for the Romanian economy. The Soviets decided not to cut down deliveries for the fourth quarter of this year provided the Romanian side fulfilled its own contractual obligations. It is all up to us. We are much behind contractual schedules for our delivery of drilling equipment, tubes, pipes and furniture. Although we have started this year from an active balance with the USSR, we now have a passive balance. Taking into account our close geographical position and the already existing electric and gas lines, we should, in my opinion, maintain tight links with the Soviet Union, the supplier of first necessity raw materials for the Romanian economy.

Vatasescu Meets Premier of Moldavian SSR

AU2809203590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1730 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 28/9/1990—Returning home from Moscow, where it took part in the proceedings of the Joint Romanian-Soviet Intergovernmental Commission of Economic and Technical-Scientific Collaboration, the Romanian delegation, headed by Mr. Anton Vatasescu, minister of state in charge with the industrial and commercial activity, met in Kishinev with Mr. Mircea Druc, prime minister of the Moldova SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic].

On the occasion topics were examined on expanding the economic and trade relations as well as the mutually advantageous cooperation in various fields. The first step in this direction was made by signing a convention between the Romanian and the Moldova SSR Governments regarding tourism, which stipulates capitalization of the touristic fund and reduction of touristic tariffs both ways for business trips as well as for the people in Moldova SSR whose children are studying in Romania.

At the conclusion of the talks Mr. Mircea Druc told ROMPRES the following: "The meeting is a natural continuation of the relations that have begun several months ago. We discussed many economic and technological problems and all we have to do now is get to work."

In his turn Mr. Anton Vatasescu stated: "It is our first ample contact with the new government of the Moldova SSR. We think we can do a lot of things together and we hope we can overcome as fast as possible the difficulties that are still hindering us. I feel sure our contacts with Moldova SSR will greatly expand in all fields in future."

Economic Commission Session With Turkey Ends

AU2809205690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1836 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 28/9/1990—The proceedings of the 16th session of the Joint Romanian-Turkish Economic Commission ended on Friday, September 28.

The parties reviewed bilateral trade exchanges, the possibilities and ways to further develop economic, industrial and technical cooperation between Romania and Turkey in fields of mutual interest, especially in power engineering, mining, mechanical engineering, automation, electronics and electro-technical industry, transport and telecommunications, medical equipment, household appliances, agriculture and food industry. New steps and actions have been studied to ensure ever-greater commodity exchanges.

At the conclusion of the debates, the two co-chairmen of the commission, Mr. Anton Vatasescu, minister of state of Romania, and Mr. Husnu Dogan, minister of state of the Republic of Turkey, signed the session protocol.

During a news conference, the Turkish minister estimated the commercial exchanges between Romania and Turkey would amount to about three billion dollars by the end of the year. The protocol signed today represents a broad framework for a multilateral development of the Romanian-Turkish economic relations. It covers almost all economic and commercial questions of interest for the two countries, he said.

Roman's Statements Upon Return From Geneva

AU2809142690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1008 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 28/9/1990—Upon his return from a short visit to Belgium, Prime Minister Petre Roman stated to a ROMPRES correspondent that the interview he had had with Jacques Delors, chairman of the EEC ex-commission was extremely important, stressing that it was useful, straightforward and, sometimes, utterly friendly. One can conclude that the relations between Romania and the Common Market have entered a new stage, tending to normalization. A beginning was made by the decision of the EEC to ratify its trade and economic cooperation agreement with Romania. All we have to do now is carry on. "At this moment, direct contacts, honest and detailed planning are not only necessary, they become indispensable", said Mr. Roman, showing that the contacts he had at Brussels fall in this line of action.

"We also had talks with several Belgian personalities and found that attractive channels of cooperation are open to Romania and Belgium", stated Premier Roman to a Radio Bucharest correspondent, on his return home.

Speaking of his visit to Geneva on the same day, Premier Roman told the reporter about the press conference at the UN Headquarters with the International Press and officials of the World Health Organization. "In connection with our openness to the international community for assistance to abandoned and handicapped children in Romania, I have the belief that solid links have been established for a close cooperation, [no end quote as received] said the prime minister.

Nicu Ceausescu's Request for Repeal Granted

AU2809142990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0956 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 28/9/1990—Bucharest's Military Territorial Tribunal considered on Thursday, September 28, the request to repeal Nicu Ceausescu's investigative custody. Nicu Ceausescu was judged and convicted to 20-year imprisonment by the same tribunal on September 21.

The panel of judges, headed by Colonel-Lieutenant Constantin Lucescu granted the request rescinding the previous ruling for a period of three months, the prosecutor having the right to lodge an appeal in three days' time.

In granting the request the court considered Nicu Ceausescu's health condition; he suffers from liver cirrhosis and oesophagus varix.

Ion Stoian Testifies in RCP Officials' Trial

AU2909141190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0753 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 29/9/1990—The trial of the ex-members of the CC [Central Committee] of the RCP [Romanian Communist Party] Executive Political Committee [PEC] accused of genocide was resumed Friday 20 September with the testimony of defendant Ion Stoian.

The charge brought against him is his tacit consent as participant in the PEC meetings of 17 and 22 December 1989 to the use of fire arms to put the revolution down.

The defendant dismissed the charge as unfounded. He admitted he had realised Nicolae Ceausescu had ordered before the 17 December PEC meeting that fire arms be used to restore order at Timisoara, but said that he had regarded that as natural considering the information he and the other PEC members had at that time. On Ceausescu's theory that the events at Timisoara were sparked by people living outside the borders of the country, Stoian said there were certain things at that time that pleaded for its credibility, such as the growing number of tourists who, as part of the small border traffic in the west of the country in the latter half of December, went deeper in the territory than the law permitted; the applications of many foreign journalists for travelling facilities to cities in the Banat and Transylvania (Timisoara, Arad, Sibiu, Brasov, Cluj); the more frequent trips that foreign diplomats accredited to Bucharest took to those areas.

Ion Stoian, 63, held top party and state positions; he was among other things first secretary of the Constanta County Party Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP for international affairs and after the 14th RCP Congress, foreign affairs minister.

The case was adjourned by the court until Monday 1 October when defendant Lina Ciobanu is due to testify.

Incident During Trial of 13-15 June Defendants

AU3009191290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1659 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 30/9/1990—There was an incident in the session hall of the First District Court on September 27, show documents sent to the "ROMPRES" news agency by the Press Bureau of the Ministry of the Interior, which asks that they should be released and shows that the originals can be placed at the disposal of press organs.

A message sent to the minister of the interior by the General Directorate of Prisons shows that during hearings of "June 13" defendants, lawyer Paul Varzaru handed over a note to a defendant in the boy. [as published] The escorting NCO [noncommissioned officer] picked up the note and gave it to the presiding judge, who recommended the incident be reported to the General Directorate of Prisons. The note was not read by any of the defendants, the message shows.

Here is the content of the note:

As for your notes:

1. They arrived at the International Red Cross last evening; Xerox copies were made (I think they are to visit you again).
2. They will be read on Radio Free Europe tomorrow night.
3. They will be broadcast on RTF stations in France.
4. This week, Friday or Saturday, someone will send them to Geneva or Helsinki.
5. Doru Viorel Ursu (the interior minister) says he does not know what is going on behind his back (abuses committed by underlings).

Be brave and stay united.

Everyone says you will be released. There is no evidence against you. Hold on. Everybody speaks about you. Romania will not get any economic aid unless the people under arrest are released. You should put down more palpable things in your notes. Tell us exactly what they are doing to you. Then drop the notes and we will pick them up. Your will get a parcel as you asked. Take care of you. Do not trust policemen. They try to sow hatred among you. Be smart.

Ratiu Addresses Romanian Conference in Paltinis

AU2709154790 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 21 Sep 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Conference of the Romania-Based Branches of the World Union of Free Romanians"]

[Text] The conference of the World Union of Free Romanians [WUFR] branches based in Romania took place in Paltinis, on 15 September. The conference was attended by Mr. Ion Ratiu, WUFR president, Messrs. Doru Novacovici, the organization's general secretary, and Mircea Enescu, president of the WUFR Romania-based section, other members of the WUFR leadership, the presidents of the 26 branches established in Romania, and the representatives of another 13 branches to be set up shortly.

On behalf of the prefect of Sibiu County, the conference was greeted by Mr. Macarie, subprefect of the country.

In the first part of the proceedings, the participants presented reports on the activity of the Romania-based WUFR section, with emphasis on the organizational, institutional, and legislative aspects, and reports on the activity of county branches.

In the second part of the proceedings, which was devoted to discussions, the participants examined various problems facing the Romania-based branches of the organization and emphasized the ever broader favorable response enjoyed by WUFR in the country.

At the end of the meeting, WUFR President Ion Ratiu took the floor. He recalled the conditions under which WUFR was created in 1984 and the fact that, with the outbreak of the December revolution, the organization's center could be moved to Bucharest. At this time, the ideal which gave birth to WUFR, namely the struggle for the liberty of Romanians everywhere, has acquired a new meaning because the organization intends to become deeply involved in supporting the democratization of life in Romania.

The participants in the conference paid pious homage to philosopher Constantin Noica, at whose tomb a wreath was laid and a religious service was conducted.

It has been decided that the next WUFR countrywide conference will be held next spring.

Paper Shortage Forces Dailies To Run Fewer Pages

AU2709125090

[Editorial Report] Several Bucharest dailies in the period 20-22 September carry items dealing with a current shortage of newsprint in Romania.

Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian on 20 September, page 1, carries a 500-word "(A)"-signed article "Coincidentally, There Was Paper" in answer to notes published by dailies TINERETUL LIBER and ROMANIA LIBERA that they had had to run only two pages because of lack of paper. The author accuses the complaining dailies of "lying" and claims that they resorted to this "aggressive diversion" and "stratagem" in order to attract the attention of readers, since "enough paper was delivered" for both papers to have run "all four pages" of their editions.

Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian on 21 September, page 1, carries a 200-word boxed-in note entitled "A New Form of Censorship" protesting the "faulty and preferential distribution" of paper by the powers that be. The current practice—"a disguised form of censorship"—which is to the detriment of opposition newspapers, has forced DREPTATEA to run only two pages on that day.

TINERETUL LIBER in Romanian on 21 September, pages 1 and 3, carries an 800-word "(TINERETUL LIBER)"-signed article "The Truth and Nothing but the Truth," refuting the allegations of ADEVARUL, which "still seems to be afflicted by the nostalgia of priority," that there was enough paper for the daily to run four pages in its 18 September issue. As proof of its justified complaints, TINERETUL LIBER says that GAZETA SPORTURILOR [The Sports Gazette] was also forced to run only two pages in its latest issue.

In a change of tone, ADEVARUL on 22 September, page 1, carries a 200-word boxed-in note entitled "The Paper—Real Explanations for a Real Crisis." The note acknowledges the "disquieting situation in the sphere of paper supplies" and demands explanations for the "real shortage" of paper, which forces the newspapers either to run fewer pages or limit their circulation. The note concludes with a warning that ADEVARUL had to appear in almost 100,000 fewer copies on that particular day. The same daily on 23 September carries on page 1 of the "only two pages" it could to run on that day "due to paper shortage," a 200-word unsigned note "The Paper, Print, and Distribution—Only the Government Can Solve This Problem," joining in the chorus of complaints against the "paper supply crisis" in the country and calling on the government to "put a resolute end to the serious shortcomings in this sphere" and to "sack" the people responsible for this situation.

* 'War of Nerves' in University Square

90BA0302B Bucharest DIMINEATA in Romanian 28 Aug 90 pp 1, 6

[Radu Filip article: "The 'War of Nerves' Continues"]

[Text] First, Mr. Dumitru Mazilu publicly announced in Cluj that "we will immediately begin to organize actions aimed at creating destabilization in all areas." Shortly after that declaration, the Revolution Party, which overnight became Christian and democratic (?), legally organized a meeting on Wednesday 22 August. The meeting marked the first attempt to occupy University Square, which still continues at this time. What was the purpose and reason for having such a meeting organized in the middle of the week by a ghost party? It certainly wasn't designed to mark the eight months anniversary of the Revolution! On the other hand, we recall that this party was established at the time of the hooligans and that its ideological and especially financial support comes from Dumitru Mazilu. In other words, this is Uncle Mitica's [diminutive for Dumitru] party! Also, we must not forget that at the securitate school that he graduated and later led con brio, and that Mr. Mazilu learned and taught the techniques of subversion and destabilization. And finally, Mr. Mazilu has maintained certain contacts and relations with some of the securitate members released after the Revolution, who are now looking for jobs. At the same time, we must ask ourselves: What happened with Mr. Mazilu's guard, which during the Revolution and even afterward, was billeted at the Hotel Union? On the other hand, very soon, in September, the Common Market is scheduled to adopt a final decision on including Romania in the EEC economic flux (the events of 13-15 June broke out six days before that accord was to be signed...). There is no doubt that those events may have been the reason for the EC's refusal to cooperate with Romania. This is a hypothesis that we must all consider! On 22 August and on the following days, there were shouts of "Long Live the King." Just like that, all of a sudden... In reality, ex-King Mihai may visit Romania in September. This possibility was quickly "passed on" to people here and consequently, preparations are already under way for his reception! As we know, Mr. Mazilu has recently embraced the restoration cause.

Beginning on 22 August, I was present every evening in University Square. Thus, on 23 August I noticed that empty bottles and stones were being passed out in the back of Dunarea. Then I saw certain types—young, well-dressed men—who regularly intervened during lulls, whipping up the mood with anti-Iliescu slogans. They vanished at any threat of arrest, only to reapper when the danger had passed. When I tried to talk to some of the most "heated" of the demonstrators. I discovered that they had no coherent or convincing arguments. All they wanted was to simply have Iliescu removed, whom they absurdly viewed as responsible for all the bad things happening in the country. The new demonstrators seem to me to be "obsessively inflamed," rather than aware, which may explain their evident aggressiveness. They were actually happy every time they managed to hit anyone among the forces of order or to break a windshield. For others, however, University Square represents an adventure, or at the worst, a diversion. This category includes a relatively large number of young people and children. Thus, I saw cars with low licence plate numbers stopping on side streets, and young men, dressed in foreign-made clothes get out and shout, in between puffs on Kent cigarettes: "We want freedom," "Down with Iliescu." I found this quite shocking, because those young men were and obviously still are privileged. One of the demonstrators' strategies is to harass the forces of order, something that reveals the existence of a premeditated plan of action.

On the other hand, it is obvious that what the organizers are doing is testing the possible support of the residents of Bucharest. In other words, these are not decisive actions, but preparations! In this situation, it is probable that negotiations have already begun behind the scenes with opposition parties and organizations to secure support for such manifestations. The overt purpose is to trigger violent reactions from the police forces, which in turn would elicit strong international protests...

In conclusion, what we have here is the most obvious provocations designed to destabilize the social and political climate and prevent the normalization of Romania's foreign relations.

P.S. Hungary is doing its best to prevent the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vienna Diktat. We wonder why...

Croatia Calls For Reservists To Surrender Arms

Internal Affairs Forces To Receive Arms

LD2809185790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1746 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Zagreb, 28 Sep (TANJUG)—The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Croatia within the framework of its legal powers has ordered all secretariats of internal affairs and public security stations in the Republic of Croatia to exempt [izuzimanje] from arms 60 percent of the reservist component, because of the need to equip the increasing numbers of active forces from the Internal Affairs Ministry.

Although this order refers to all secretariats and public security offices in the Republic of Croatia, it has, as was officially announced this evening, given rise in certain places in Croatia to disturbances of public order and peace under the slogan that this is an "attack on the Serbian nation in Croatia."

There were expressions of disquiet in Petrinja, Glina, Obrovac, and Donji Lapac. According to the Ministry statement, during these incidents individuals displayed very aggressive behavior, but public order and peace were established in these areas through intervention by the security forces.

Demonstrators Protest Weapons' Removal

LD2809190490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Dvor na Uni, 28 Sep (TANJUG)—This afternoon people started to gather spontaneously outside the Public Security Station and the municipal Assembly building in Dvor na Uni. This was brought about by the events in Petrinja and Glina and by the realization that 60 percent of the weapons belonging to the reserve police forces there had been removed.

An extraordinary session of the Executive Council of Dvor na Uni's municipal Assembly was held immediately at which the situation in this commune was deemed very serious. At the same session it was also confirmed that "the weaponry belonging to the reserve police formation has really been transported to Sisak."

The Executive Council sent a protest note to the government and Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Croatia which again upset the public by its decision to remove the arms and demanded that they be returned immediately and distributed among the reservists in the Dvor na Uni militia.

The head of the Dvor na Uni Public Security Station, Milan Serbula, was physically assaulted as he was coming out of the municipal Assembly building.

Protesters Seize Police Weapons

LD2909050190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0420 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Dvor on the Una, Yugoslavia, 29 Sep (TANJUG)—Some thousand people from the town of Dvor on the Una River, Republic of Croatia, and from the neighbouring boundary town of Bosanski Novi, Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, burst into the Dvor police station, occupied it, overpowered its policemen and took away their arms and ammunition here last night. During this attack the policemen did not use their arms.

Carrying the taken arms away the people left the station and set up barricades at the access roads. In doing so, they attempted to stop short some action by the Croatian authorities who, supported by special police units, are trying to take arms over from reserve police units in Croatia's towns chiefly inhabited by local Serbs.

Members of special Croatian police units arrived in Dvor on the Una shortly before midnight in support of the local police.

Yesterday, an action of taking away arms meant for the reserve policemen in the town of Petrinja, not far away from Croatia's capital city of Zagreb, unleashed a clash locking up local people and Croatian special police units.

Forces Act To Recover Weapons

LD2909105190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service 1004 GMT in Serbo-Croatian 1004 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Dvor na Uni, 29 Sep (TANJUG)—Following the takeover last night by special forces of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the police station building in Dvor na Uni, action has begun to recover weapons forcefully seized from citizens at about 2100 last night, after overcoming the resistance of policemen at the station. All approaches to the municipal Assembly building and the police station are blocked, and the control of vehicles and their passengers has begun.

This morning a burglary at a gun shop was reported to the police station in Dvor na Uni, but it has been learned, unofficially, that the burglars did not reach the hunting weapons, and only took some hunting ammunition.

The municipal Executive Council and Secretariat for National Defense has been meeting throughout the night. The Executive Council has condemned the action of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Croatian leadership.

Ministry Issues Statement on Unrest

LD2909152290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1346 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Statement by the "authorized representative" of the Croatian Ministry of Internal Affairs; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] Zagreb, 29 Sep (TANJUG)—Regarding the event surrounding the redistribution of arms belonging to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, the authorized representative of the ministry has released the following statement:

After public peace and order were restored in all the areas where there was unrest on 28 September, on the night of 28-29 September. citizens began gathering once again. Incited by the conclusions of the municipal authorities, whereby they refused to be held responsible for the state of security in their areas and demanded in an ultimatum-like manner that the redistributed arms of the Ministry of Internal Affairs be returned, groups of troublemakers mounted a mass break-in at the Public Security Stations of Dvor, Glina, and Obrovac, and took away some weaponry from these stations. The offenders snatched the arms without facing adequate resistance by the militia in these stations.

This situation led the Ministry of Internal Affairs to send reinforcements to the security forces in the stricken areas to keep public peace and order. The return of the arms continues. The Ministry of Internal Affairs assesses that a certain number of members of this service did not carry out their complex tasks responsibly and professionally, so adequate legal measures are being taken against these workers. In this respect, Ljuban Loncarevic, has already been relieved of his duties following a well-founded suspicion that he committed a criminal act of unconscientious work in his service. He has been given a period of detention. Ministry of Internal Affairs workers have so far identified 90 participants in the unrests, of whom 18, from the area covered by the Petrinja Public Security Station, have been detained. Nine of them have been placed in custody for three days. These persons will be charged with minor offences and with committing criminal acts.

Although during the events in the night of 28-29 September the police did not use firearms, unknown perpetrators did use firearms. A consequence of this was the serious wounding of policemen Josip Bozicevic, who was shot in the upper arm and ribs. J. Bozicevic, after an urgent operation, is no longer in danger.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs points out that the course of these events again showed the arrogance of predatory bands in the realization of the slogan "surprise and with determination," in which there is the desire to use weapons of the organs of internal affairs to create an armed rebellion in the Republic of Croatia. After opening fire on members of the police, it is crystal clear that this is not a matter of a so-called peaceful uprising, which the Serbian Democratic Party [Srpska Demokratska Stranka—SDS] proclaimed in Srb, but of terrorist acts stimulated by politicians in accordance with bandit-like instructions from outside the Republic of Croatia. This is also indicated by the conclusions of the municipal organs of authority in Obrovac, Dvor, and other places, who are orientated toward sowing distrust in the legal organs of authority of the Republic of Croatia.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs informs the public that the first indicators in the action to confiscate the illegal arms in those regions lead one to believe that a large part of the material concern of society for these mainly undeveloped regions was used for the illegal purchase of arms. Hence the ministry will request, when considering the problems of aid to the undeveloped that account is also taken of this aspect, about which the public will be informed in good time.

In connection with the security events during the redistribution of arms of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, further measures are being taken to establish the responsibility of all those taking part in the disturbances, as well as to establish the responsibility of individual workers of the organs of internal affairs. The Ministry of Internal Affairs requests all structures of authority in the municipalities in which the disorderly behavior occurred to bear their share of responsibility for these events.

Citizens Asked To Surrender Weapons

LD3009202190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1928 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Donji Lapac, 30 Sep (TANJUG)—The message of the Executive Council of the municipal Assembly of Donji Lapac to the Croatian Government is that it should have had more feeling for the political and security situation of the Serbian people in Croatia. It also calls on citizens to surrender their forcefully seized weapons.

At its extraordinary session, the municipal Executive Council of Donji Lapac today assessed that last night's raid of a group of citizens on the public security station, and their forceful seizure of weapons, only deteriorated the already very complex political and security situation.

The council also condemned the way in which some weapons of the police reserve force were confiscated. "It is the wrong time to carry out such an act in municipalities populated by the Serbian people. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Croatian Government should have showed more prudence and reason when making such a decision," a statement from the session stresses.

The Executive Council calls on all citizens who are in possession of seized weapons to surrender them immediately so that the present situation may be overcome peacefully.

Autonomy Declared in Serb Areas

LD0110111690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0848 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Knin, 1 Oct (TANJUG)—At its session in Srb the Serbian National Council [Srpsko Nacionalno Vijece] has declared Serbian autonomy on the ethnic and historic territories populated by the Serbian people within the existing borders of the Republic of Croatia as a federal unit of the SFRY. A statement, sent to TANJUG this morning and signed by Serbian National Council President Milan Babic, stresses that this decision was made on the basis of the Serbian people's will expressed by the plebiscite on Serbian autonomy held from 19 August to 2 September this year.

The Serbian National Council, the statement reads, calls on the Serbian people to resist by all means the terror of the Ustasha-styled authorities and to protect their human dignity and their civil and national rights.

The session also considered a report on the implementation of the opinion poll on Serbian autonomy in the Republic of Croatia conducted among the Serbian people. Its precise figures demonstate that a total of 567,317 people, living in the municipalities and in those parts of the mucipalities where the opinion poll was carried out, took part in it, of whom 567,127 favor it, 144 oppose it, and there are 46 invalid ballots. Outside the territory of Croatia 183,464 people took part in the opinion poll, 189,422 of whom voted in favor of autonomy. According to this report a total of 756,781 people took part in this opinion poll; 756,549 voted for Serbian autonomy, 172 against, and there were 60 invalid ballots. The Central Commission found that the absolute majority of all the Serbian communities where the opinion poll was carried out favored Serbian autonomy.

The opinion poll was carried out in the following municipalities: Knin, Benkovac, Obrovac, Gracac, Donji Lapao, Gospic, Titova Korenica, Otocac, Ogulin, Slunj, Vojnic, Karlovac, Vrgin Most, Dvor na Uni, Kostajnica, Pakrac, Petrinja, Daruvar, Grubisino Polje, Garesnica, Beli Manastir, Vukovar; and in parts of the following municipalities: Sinj, Drnis, Skradin, Zadar, Duga Resa, Vrbovsko, Sisak, Karlovac, Novska, Nova Gradiska, Kutina, Bjelovar, Virovitica, Podravska Slatina, Orahovica, Nasice, Osijek, Vinkovci, Rijeka, Pula, Imotski, Metkovic, and Dubrovnik.

The commission announces that the Croatian police and threats from the nationalist part of the Croatian population prevented the opinion poll taking place in those places where Croatians are in the majority: Split, Solin, Kastela, the city of Sibenik; some parts of Rijeka, Sisak, Karlovac, Zagreb, the so-called old governer's part of Croatia [banski dio Hrvatske]; and the city of Osijek; so more than 150,000 Serbians could not have a say.

This poll was carried out under Article 4 of the Declaration of Sovereignty and Autonomy of the Serbian People, Article 157 of the SFRY Constitution, and Article 232 of the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, the statement explains.

Petrinja People Gather To Protest Arms Transfer

AU2809124190 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1200 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] TANJUG reports that citizens rallied in front of the Petrinja Public Security Station last night and this morning in protest against the announcement that some of the weapons belonging to the reserve militia personnel in Petrinja will be transferred to Sisak.

That is why the Petrinja Assembly Executive Council held an extraordinary session this morning and its president, Simo Ljubojevic, said that a special statement will be issued in connection with the gathering of the Petrinja citizens. According to Ljubojevic, most citizens dispersed after they were addressed by the communal assembly officials.

However, smaller groups are still gathering in the town center and disrupting the traffic.

Shots Fired; No Casualties

AU2809140990 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The people of Petrinja [commune in Croatia with Serbian population] prevented the militia being disarmed early this morning. Here is a report by Boro Ovuka:

[Ovuka] The dramatic events that occurred last night when members of the Sisak special units tried to take arms away from the reserve militia from the Petrinja Public Security Station are still continuing. After a group of citizens stopped trucks carrying weapons five kilometers out of Petrinja and made them return to the Petrinja Public Security Station, disturbances broke out in that small town in Banija [region of Croatia largely populated by Serbs]. Shortly after citizens had gathered in front of the Public Security Station building, barricades of cars, buses, and logs were put up in the streets and the road to Sisak.

When they learned about the Petrinja rebellion—in quotes—there was an identical reaction in nearby Glina, in Dvor on the Una, and in Kostajnica at dawn.

Shots were even fired in Petrinja last night, but fortunately there were no casualties. The only casualty was a camera of the Croatian Television and a journalist and a cameraman were allegedly physically attacked.

'Special Police Forces' Disperse Crowd

LD2809184390 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Some time after 1500 today a column of police vehicles with special police forces entered Petrinja, because several hundred people, some of whom were armed, have been occupying an area in front of the Public Security Station since last night. The alleged motive for this was the attempt to move arms belonging to police reservists from Petrinja to Sisak.

Access to the public security station was blocked by a heavy truck, and some other roads were closed in a similar way. All these events make it considerably more difficult for journalists to report on the events in Petrinja, though just a few minutes ago we received a brief report from our correspondent (Marina Mucevo):

[(Mucevo)] The forces of special police units continue to control the streets around the Public Security Station, but the new fact is that there are no longer any unofficial persons either in or outside the station, at least not in the immediate vicinity. What happened was that at exactly 1700 tear-gas was used, and this did the job. We have also learned that several of the people who have been protesting during the day in the station courtyard have been detained. The situation is still uncertain.

Citizens are continuing to gather and are more or less expressing their views. Obstacles have been removed from the streets, and it seems that at least now, at about 1900, the situation is under control, although it continues to be uncertain.

Our colleague, Zlatko Kuretic, has reported that a group of provateurs broke into the nearby barracks compound, obviously wishing to provoke a reaction from the Army. Otherwise, observers of events in Petrinja, our colleague Kuretic reports, say that much of the episode in Petrinja indicates organization by external forces, because, they say, there are unknown persons who are obviously not from this region in front of the Public Security Station.

Tear Gas, Water Cannon Utilized

AU2809211790 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] After special units of the Croatian militia intervened with tear gas and water cannon this afternoon, apparent peace prevailed in Petrinja early this evening. Since late last night and all through the day, citizens have been guarding the weapons of the reserve militia taken away by force and returned peacefully. They have now abandoned the square in front of the Petrinja Public Security Station.

In the meanwhile, barricades have been removed from town streets and from the road between Petrinja and Sisak, where trucks came to fetch the weapons the previous night.

There are still no full reports on what happened in Petrinja or what is going on at present. Our correspondent in Zagreb was told by Milan (Brezeg), under secretary in the Internal Affairs Ministry of Croatia, that an official statement will be issued after 2000 [1800 GMT].

Croat Official Says Situation 'Reassuring'

LD2909223290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1941 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Zagreb, 29 Sep (TANJUG)—Deputy Interior Minister of the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia Perica Juric told Radio Croatia tonight that the situation in Petrinja and other predominantly Serb-populated towns "is not disturbing, but rather, it is reassuring".

Law and order have been restored and rioting and lawlessness will be punished, Juric said an warned the citizens who have taken arms from the Public Security Stations that they have committed a criminal offence.

The detained persons found in possession of the stolen armament will be prosecuted, Juric said and, on behalf of the Croatian Interior Ministry, extended firm assurances of immunity from prosecution to those who return arms of their own free will.

Protection Sought From Army

LD2909211190 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Excerpt] After today's peaceful situation in Petrinja, which members of the special units of the Ministry of Internal Affairs [MUP] are constantly checking in the vicinity of the public security station, in the early evening the situation deteriorated with the arrival of a large group of citizens of Serbian nationality in front of the [word indistinct] barracks. They sought protection by the Yugoslav People's Army from the alleged physical threat.

Rumors are circulating in the town that there is a much greater number of people detained by the police than was officially announced by the MUP, and as a result of this people have left their homes and have gathered in front of the barracks in the outskirts of Petrinja. [passage omitted]

Croat Radio Reports Quiet Night

LD3009120990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1002 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Zagreb, 30 Sep (TANJUG)—The night passed quietly in Petrinja, Glina, and Dvor na Uni; there were no disturbances or rallies, Croatian radio reports. All the roads in the area are passable and there are no barricades.

According to a report by a correspondent of the Sljeme studio [one of Zgreb's local radio stations], several hundred women and children of Serbian nationality spent the night inside the Vasilj Gacesa army barracks. They "took refuge in the Yugoslav People's Army barracks," they say, "endangered by the special units of the Ministry for Internal Affairs."

During the night the special units in Petrinja relaxed their controls so they are now keeping guard only around the public security station.

Another extraordinary session of the Petrinja Executive Council is scheduled for this morning. The council is expected to release an official statement on the latest events in the town.

The Croatian Ministry for Internal Affairs will soon release an official statement on yesterday's developments in Donji Lapac. About 500 citizens broke into the police station and seized almost all the arms there.

After this, Donji Lapac was quiet during the night, and so were Obrovac and Benkovac.

Situation Said 'Increasingly Tense'

LD3009134190 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] That the situation in Petrinja is not calming down, but is getting increasingly tense, was the assessment at an extraordinary session this morning of the Executive Council of the Petrinja Municipal Assembly, from which this message was sent to the government of the Republic of Croatia and its Ministry of Internal Affairs. Outside the Vasilj Gacesa army barracks an growing number of people is gathering. The situation is being complicated by mothers with their little children. The people gathered there do not believe the Municipal Assembly officials, who are trying to convince them to go home, and that no one will be affected by the special units of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The Executive Council of the Petrinja Municipal Assembly invited representatives of the government and the Ministry of Internal Affairs to visit Petrinja and talk to the people outside the military complex where they stayed last night. They are now demanding that all the persons detained from the Petrinja area be released and go home, that the special units withdraw from the town, and that the regular organs of the police station maintain public order and peace. A special message has been broadcast to citizens by the local Petrinja radio station which appeals to the citizens to hand in their arms at the police station, in the interest of their own security, and of the security of all people in the municipality.

Atmosphere in Dvor na Uni 'Tense,' 'Uncertain'

LD2909182290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1706 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Dvor na Uni, 29 Sep (TANJUG)—The situation tonight in the municipality of Dvor na Uni remains tense and uncertain. At about 1600, Simo Rajsic, the president of the Municipal Assembly, read out conclusions made at the municipal Executive Council's session which demanded that the citizens disperse peacefully and that the special units withdraw. The citizens, however, only moved to the neighboring bus station. There the establishment of "the All-People's Council of the Dvor na Uni Municipality" was announced at about 1700.

The participants in the meeting were told that the All-People's Council held a session and adopted the following stands: It demands the release of all the persons detained or kept in custody in the Public Security Station and the withdrawal of the special units of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, as their presence is considered as "only being provocative to the people." Finally, Deputy Minister for the Ministry for Internal Affairs of Croatia Perica Juric and the secretary of the Sisak secretariat for Internal Affairs Josip Paver are urgently demanded to visit Dvor na Uni. The withdrawal of all militia vehicles from the streets of Dvor na Uni is also demanded.

Over 2,000 citizens from Dvor na Uni and its neighboring areas are taking part in the protest rally in Dvor na Uni.

Tear Gas Used To Disperse Protesters

LD2909200890 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1940 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Dvor na Uni, 29 Sep (TANJUG)—A little after 1800 this evening, the police in Dvor na Uni used tear gas and prevented a protest meeting by citizens, which, according to Perica Juric, Croatian deputy minister of internal affairs, surpassed the framework of a peaceful meeting and thus disturbed public peace and order.

In the afternoon, during a protest meeting in the center of Dvor na Uni, near the bus depot, security forces did not intervene until it became necessary, Perica Juric said in a statement for TANJUG. After the invervention, which ended with no injuries, the crowd dispersed. This evening there were no new meetings in the streets of Dvor na Uni.

Donji Lapac Citizens Seize Public Security Arms

LD2909204190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] According to information from the Gospic Secretariat for Internal Affairs, this evening 400-500 citizens, who had gathered in the center of Donji Lapac, at about 2000 broke into the Public Security Station in Donji Lapac and removed almost all the arms. We have not been able to learn whether there was resistance, but it can be affirmed with certainty that the intentions of the unbridled organizers of this deed are similar to those in Petrinja and Dvor na Uni.

Citizens Gather in Obrovac; Shootings Reported

LD2809121790 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] After weapons belonging to Obrovac police reservists were removed yesterday in Obrovac, citizens started to gather again last night. Shots could be heard throughout the night. A car (?and several shops), whose owners are Croats, were damaged in the disturbances.

Citizens gathered once more this morning around 1100 [0900 GMT]. Then Dusan Olujic, president of the municipal Executive Council, and Dusan Madzar, Obrovac deputy in the Croat Assembly's Chamber of Municipalities, addressed the citizens. Olujic presented conclusion which the municipal government reached at the emergency session last night. The conclusions condemn the removal of weapons, which was done without the knowledge of the local leaders, yet another undemocratic act by the Croat leadership.

Obrovac Halts Water Flow to Zadar

AU2809202190 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] A protest rally attended by some 1,500 citizens has been held in Obrovac. The resignation of the chief and the commander of the Obrovac Public Security Station was demanded on account of their direct participation in the surrender of weapons. Unless the weapons are returned, the Obrovac people stated that they will stop the water pipeline running from this commune to Zadar. Darko Pevic, reporter of Serbian Radio Knin, reports:

[Pevic] In connection with the morning protest rally of several thousand citizens of Obrovac, the Executive Council of the Communal Assembly at its extraordinary session, attended by members of the commune's Presidency, decided that appeals be made to the republican leadership and the leaders of Zadar that they come to a meeting in Obrovac tomorrow noon, where an ultimatum will be considered.

The appeal was directed to Josip Manolic, president of the Executive Council of Croatia; Josip Boljkovac, minister of internal affairs; and leaders of the Secretariat for Internal Affairs and of the Zadar Commune.

Before the afternoon session of the communal government, the valves at Zaton were closed; from there, Zadar and other towns in the vicinity are supplied with water from the Zrmanja river. Along with stopping the water, which could have unimaginable consequences for life and economy in Zadar, the Obrovac Executive Council threatens the Republic of Croatia with withdrawing payments of the earned-income contributions for the so-called public and general spending, and at the same time demands that the economic blockade be lifted not only of Obrovac but also other places in Croatia with a majority Serbian population.

The Obrovac authorities assert that they are no longer able to control the people who are fighting the various forms of pressure. The situation today is assessed as graver than 40 days ago when the Obrovac reserve militia weapons were transferred to Zadar for the first time. Just as over a month ago, the people took to the streets this time when the weapons were taken away for the second time. The communal leadership met last night and addressed the citizens at about 0100 [2300 GMT, 27 September]. The Obrovac people did not disperse. They demanded that the weapons be returned and that those who handed them over should be punished even by dismissal from the militia. Resignations were demanded from Bogdan (Gadzic), commander of the Public Security Station, and of Mirko Dragicevic, chief of the station. It was also demanded that militiamen Milan Milic and Zivko (Dopudza) be dismissed.

At about 1100 today, the Obrovac people were addressed by (Dusan Olujic), president of the commune's Executive Council. He informed the citizens gathered that he had just held talks with Josip Boljkovac, minister of internal affairs of Croatia, who said that it is completely ruled out that some 30 rifles be returned to the Obrovac militia storage facility.

In connection with the events in Obrovac, as well as in Petrinja, Glina, and Dvor on the Una—which, we learn, you cannot enter because the approaches are blocked—the Presidium of the Knin Communal Assembly was called in an extraordinary session. David Raskovic, president of the Donji Lapac Commune, has sent a warning message to several addresses in Zagreb and to Knin: We will not allow anybody to disarm us. Such attempts may have unforeseeable consequences for relations in Croatia and Yugoslavia, the message from Lapac says.

Tension Said 'Exceptional'

AU2909205190 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Dragan Miholic report from Obrovac—live]

[Text] I am calling from Obrovac, the town which has had an excess of politics recently. I have just talked with (Dusan Milovic), president of the communal Executive Council, who confirmed that the Croatian authorities have not responded to the appeal for talks about the seizure of the weapons of the reserve militia units. (?Therefore) a countermeasure has been applied, which is to say the water pipeline which supplies Zadar from here has been closed.

(?Anyhow, there are not) many people in the streets, but tension is exceptional. [Words indistinct] and on the road to Bosansko Grahovo, strong barricades have been erected.

Conflicting Reports of Situation in Banija, Lika

TANJUG Reports Everything 'Calm'

LD3009194790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1800 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Zagreb, 30 Sep (TANJUG)—Everything was calm in Banija and Lika on Sunday [30 September] following two-day Serbian protests there and yesterday's intervention by special police forces. Banija and Lika, regions in the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia, are largely populated by Serbs.

In Glina, Peterinje, Obrovac, Donji Labac, and Dvor Na Uni, Serbs staged rallies to protest the Croatian authorities' order to take away arms from police reservists. In some towns, residents broke into police stations to collect arms, thus forestalling special units.

Members of the special units relaxed security measures in Petrinje today and can now be seen only around police stations. In Dvor Na Uni, however, they are still searching passers-by and continuing the action of seizing arms.

Peace can be secured in the Glina region only by political means, not by arms, it was concluded at a Glina meeting of representatives of several parties, including the Croatian Democratic Union (CDU) [HDZ], the Croatian Democratic Party, the Serbian Democratic Party, the League of Socialists of Croatia, and the Socialist Party of Croatia.

At its meeting on Saturday evening, the Serbian Democratic Party's regional committee for Kordun, Banija, and Lika blamed the Croatian authorities for the unrest, saying that they are continually endangering the Serbian people in Croatia with their rash decisions.

Serbs in Croatia feel endangered and the special units' latest activity in the territory populated largely by Serbs constitutes yet another move by the Croatian authorities calculated to cause tension, it was heard at the meeting. Further developments cannot be predicted if state terrorism over the Serbian people continues, it was said.

As reported by Croatian radio, the Croatian Social Liberal Union, the CDU and the Croatian Peasant Party issued a statement on Sunday morning saying that "nobody can use 'endangerment' as an alibi for banditry." The statement describes the unrest as a "part of a greater-Serbian scenario."

Hundreds of women and children in Petrinje spent the night around a military barrack, where they said they had found shelter from the Interior Ministry special forces.

The Serbian Renewal Movement was the first to react to the developments in Banija. At its meeting in Valjevo on Sunday, it condemned the Croatian authorities' move, saying that they are "exposing Serbian citizens in Croatia to harassment of our [word indistinct] and religious reasons."

Situation Reportedly 'Not Yet Stabilized'

AU0110093690 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0900 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] The situation in the region of the Banija communes, Petrinja, Glina, and Dvor on the Una, has still not yet stabilized. The Socialist Party of Croatia-Party of Yugoslav Orientation, based in Petrinja, calls on the inhabitants of this region to attend a protest meeting at 1600 [1500 GMT] in (?Banski Gragovac).

Situation in Knin Region Worse; Phone Links Down

AU2909150690 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] The situation in the Knin region, Banija, and Kordun seems to have deteriorated, although we have no reliable reports. Despite trying for several hours, we have not been able to establish a telephone contact with Knin as of the beginning of this cast, and we have indirectly learned that the telephone lines with this region are blocked.

We have been informed by representatives of the regional committee of the Serbian Democratic Party for Banija and Kordun that the weapons from reserve militia depots have been taken away for the most part and that the presence of a large number of special militia units is noted.

According to a TANJUG report, action to seize the weapons from citizens has started in Dvor on the Una. TANJUG also reports that all approaches to the commune's Assembly building and the Public Security Station have been blocked, and that inspections of vehicles and passengers have begun.

'Great Deal of Tension' in Vrgin Most

LD2909172390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1602 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Vrgin Most, 29 Sep (TANJUG)—The situation in the municipality of Vrgin Most is one of instability. So far people have not gathered, nevertheless there is a great deal of tension and any hasty move may spark an explosion.

This is the assessment made by the Vrgin Most Executive Council at its session today as it was considering the newly emerged situation in the Kordun and Banija area.

In order to alleviate the tension stemming from the order to partly disarm reserve militia units, the municipal Executive Council demands that the Croatian Government reconsider its order to the Croatian Ministry for Internal Affairs, and asks that it be withdrawn.

The people perceive the implementation of this order as a severe provocation and an attack on their security, regardless of the public statement issued by the Ministry for Internal Affairs.

If the government of the Republic of Croatia fails to reach an objective assessment and the implementation of this order continues, its consequences will be disastrous, and the organs of the Municipal Assembly cannot be held responsible for what might happen. Those who issued the orders will be fully responsible—this is the assessment of the Executive Council of the Vrgin Most municipal Assembly.

Barricades Erected, Lines Cut

AU2909185590 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Dragan Miholic report from Knin—live]

[Text] Since 1200 [1000 GMT], telephone lines in and around Knin have been blocked. Croatian Radio has reported promises that they will be freed by 1800, but they have not been yet. Roads are partially blocked, as we learn, from the direction of (?Brlica) and Bosansko Grahovo. The road is clear from the direction of Srb. In fact, your correspondent reached Knin along this road.

As is known, Obrovac is at the center of attention. Last night, action was taken, as it is usually said, on order of the Croatian Republic minister of internal affairs to return a portion of the weapons of the reserve militia to the Internal Affairs Secretariat in Zadar. When this was learned in Obrovac, a meeting was held, and it was decided that the minister should be requested to return the weapons. Four of the militiamen were proclaimed to have committed high treason—in fact they are Serbs—and it is also a decision of the Obrovac Communal Assembly that water supplies to the Zadar Commune will be cut unless weapons are returned within 24 hours. Minister Boljkovac was acquainted with this idea of the Executive Council of the Obrovac Communal Assembly, and he said that such an idea is beyond discussion.

As I have said, telephone lines are blocked. We are sending this through a special link. Excitement in Knin is great. It cannot be compared with any earlier excitement. We have just learned from Milan Babic, president of the Knin Community of Communes, that the Obrovac people have kept their promise and have closed the valves of the water pipeline which supplies Zadar with water.

Erection of barricades continues. People are on the highest alert.

Plans Made To 'Cut Off' Dalmatia

AU3009145490 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Dragan Miholic report]

[Excerpts] The situation in the Knin region appears to be quiet. The picture is the same in all places in this region which we visited. The border areas toward Sinj, Drnis, and Sibenik are characterized by the state of full readiness.

Last night, the Knin region was characterized by controls of all roads, village night watches, and blockade of some roads. It does not look as if things are going to be any different tonight. [passage omitted]

The rumor in Knin and other places is that some shooting did take place, but, judging by everything, there have been no more serious incidents.

Dr. Milan Babic, president of the Knin Commune and the community of the Knin communes, scheduled a session of the Serbian National Assembly for tonight. In addition to submitting a report which it will submit to the Central Commission, which was in charge of Serbs' referendum on autonomy in Croatian, the Assembly will also make decisions concerning future moves. [passage omitted]

We have just unofficially learned from the Council of the National Committee that all roads from Kordun, Banija, and Lika toward Dalmatia will be cut off [prekinuti] as of midnight and will stay like that until, as stated, all Serbian hostages arrested during recent intervention in Banija have been released.

'National Resistance' Issues Threat

LD3009145890 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] We have just received a report from our correspondent in Split that Radio Knin has broadcast a message from the so-called Council of National Resistance, which says that starting midnight all road and rail traffic on all approaches from Lika, Banija, and Dalmatia will be halted. The announcement adds that the closure will last until the arrested offenders, who over the past few days have been taking part in the violent seizure of arms from police reservists, have been released.

Night Watches Organized Across Region

AU3009214290 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2100 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Dragan Miholic report]

[Text] The Knin region is again not sleeping tonight. The male members of the population have been disposed to village night watches and are guarding their villages. Their families are following the programs of Croatian Radio and Television trying to ascertain what could happen.

Most accesses to Knin are blocked. Radio Knin itself is well guarded, just as are other institutions in the town. This is done by civilians in a discrete manner.

The Serbian National Chamber is still holding its session. As we have learned, the place of the meeting is kept secret for security reasons. We hope that we will be informed about the chamber's decisions during the night.

Today, a bus carrying soccer players from the Dinara Soccer Club from Knin was attacked on its way through Imotski. Some people were reportedly injured. Every such report only serves to intensify caution. One could perhaps already send a military report from this pretty place.

Tomorrow is a working day.

Rail Blockade Surrounding Knin Begins

LD0110101690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0854 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Knin, 1 Oct (TANJUG)—Following an ultimatum issued by an as yet anonymous organization, the Committee of People's Council [Savjet Narodnog Odbora], to the effect that all Serbian hostages in Petrinja be released, early this morning at about 0200 a rail blockade of sorts was mounted, officials of Knin train station said. The Knin-Split, Knin-Zadar, Knin-Gospic-Zagreb and Knin-Bihac services are disrupted. The international intercity "Tauern Express" train has been brought to a halt at the Kosovo station, and the tracks between Knin and Zadar near Djevrsak are covered with stones. There are also difficulties with road traffic. The daily press has not reached Knin and telephone lines are jammed because the Knin telephone exchange is overloaded. This workday saw a large number of people failing to come to work this morning, partly because of the traffic situation but also because of the night vigils at the barricades. Although several explosions were heard, the public security station of Knin points out that there were no disturbances in the local communities.

Croat Special Units Moving In

AU0110142190 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1410 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Dragan Miholic report from Knin—live]

[Text] According to reports from the Knin information center, which are also being carried by Knin Radio, special units of the Croatian Ministry of Internal Affairs are moving in on Knin. Dr. Milan Babic, Assembly president, has called on all citizens to be on alert.

People Reportedly Hiding at Home

AU0110144290 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1425 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] For the third time in this program, we have Knin on the line and our reporter, Dragan Miholic. Do you have any new reports?

[Miholic] It seems that the report that you have carried, which was issued by the information center, is correct. I went down into the street a short while ago where children are hurriedly running home, parents are leaving their work places and hurrying to collect their children from kindergarten, and everyone is more or less withdrawing into their homes. It seems to me that one can hear [words indistinct] in the distance. That is the latest information.

TANJUG Details Media Coverage of Croat Events

LD2909204290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1901 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Zagreb, 29 Sep (TANJUG)—Perica Juric, deputy minister of internal affairs of Croatia, has stated that the situation in Petrinja "is not alarming, but is calming down because law and order have been established, while sanctions will be taken against disturbances and illegal acts." In a statement to Croatian Radio, Juric this evening warned citizens who have taken arms from Public Security Stations that they have committed a criminal act. Hence those detained who are found to have the stolen arms in their possession will be held responsible. Those who themselves return arms were offered by Perica Juric, on behalf of the Croatian Ministry of Internal Affairs, firm guarantees that they would not bear responsibility.

In its review of today's events in Petrinja, Dvor na Uni, Glina, and other places in Banija, Croatian Television also recorded a new incident in which its television crew in Petrinja was attacked this afternoon during the performance of its journalistic tasks. The crew was stopped in front of a street barricade, journalists and photographers were physically attacked and knocked down, and they were threatened with being "kept as hostages and exchanged for those detained in the Public Security Station." Upon the intervention of several sensible citizens, the Croatian Television crew was released and its equipment returned. Croatian Radio announced that Damir Brkic, a journalist and photographer with Zagreb's youth television, suffered a similar fate today in Glina.

In its report on events in Knin, Croatian Radio focused on two of the latest, it was said, provocative statements. One is from "the Council of National Resistance," broadcast on Radio Knin, which says that "the Serbian nation has not risen against the Croatian nation, but that it will resist the Ustashas until the last drop of blood." The second is from the local community of the village of Cetina near Knin, in which various organizations and organs from the municipality to the federation are called upon to intervene and "have full solidarity with the Serbian people in Banija, who are suffering at the hands of the Croatian police."

Croatian Assembly Vice President on Disturbances

LD3009161890 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Statement by Croatian Assembly Vice President Vladimir Seks; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] I think it is a matter of these great schemers [veliki scenaristi]—because their brain is in Belgrade—not having understood the message of the Croatian people, of the republic of Croatia, of the Presidency of Croatia, and all well-intentioned people in Croatia that we will not go on for long allowing Croatia to be destabilized, Kosovo-ized [Kosovizirati], and turned into a new Lebanon. This is an attack of pro-Chetnik bands under the direct control of Belgrade and the Serbian Government of Mr. Milosevic; in other words of official Serbia, fully supported by the SFRY Presidency—that part of it which is dominant, and which has squeezed out and suppressed all representatives of other republics and provinces, that [part] which is trying to destroy Yugoslavia and (?restructure) it into a Greater Serbia. The first goal is to destabilize Croatia, and after that Bosnia-Herzegovina, and to provoke civil war, and in accordance with the full logic of historical necessity, provoke a reaction by the Army. The Croatian state on this occasion, if it wishes to preserve its own authority, its own survival and that of the Croatian Government, will have to react decisively—and it has begun with a very decisive reaction—because it will lose all the credit and trust it acquired in these elections, both among the Croatian people and among all well-intentioned people who are not Croats, because this is a matter for all of us living in Croatia; and finally, an end should be put to these terrorist meetings and to this policy.

Croat Internal Affairs Ministry Issues Statement

LD3009165190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1541 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Zagreb, 30 Sep (TANJUG)—In connection with the 29 September events in Donji Lapac and Pakrac, Under Secretary Milan Brezak, spokesman for the republic of Croatia Internal Affairs Ministry, issued the following statement:

On 29 September at about 1900 [1700 GMT], a group of about 500 people gathered outside the municipal Assembly building in Donji Lapac and proceeded to walk toward the the police station. The group kept calling on those in the police station to surrender their arms. A request by the police chief for the municipal assembly president or a representative of the municipal authorities to address the citizens was rejected. The crowd, which had by now started running wild, broke into the police station and, according to Mr. Brezak, carried away a large amount of weapons. So far 15 of the most aggressive offenders who took part in this criminal act have been identified. Similar acts of violence were attempted in the militia station in Srb, but were hampered by prompt action by the Internal Affairs organs.

In another incident on 29 September, about 4,000 people gathered outside the municipal Assembly building in Pakrac at about 2100 [1900 GMT]. The reason for the gathering was a rumor spread by some members of the Serbian Democratic Party [Srpska Demokratska Stranka] concerning alleged withdrawal of weapons from the police station in Pakrac. The citizens dispersed after they were given assurances that the weapons would not be withdrawn. The most vociferous offenders in the crowd had beards, wore traditional Serbian hats and were obviously from somewhere else. About 200 of them kept threatening to break into the police station. The group withdrew after the station chief warned that the militia was prepared to use weapons to defend the building.

Under Secretary Brezak reiterated the Internal Affairs Ministry's official position on municipal authorities being called on to assume their share of responsibility in these events and to make public statements about the criminal acts in which the police stations in their municipalities had been broken into and plundered.

Serbia Demands Protection of Serbs in Croatia

AU0110114390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic in Serbo-Croatian 1146 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] The Presidency of Serbia has demanded from the SFRY Presidency that, in accordance with its constitutional powers, it protect the ethnic Serbian citizens of Yugoslavia from the repression to which they have been subjected in Croatia, which is in contradiction to the SFRY Constitution, which guarantees them national equality. The crisis in which the country now finds itself cannot be a reason for the Yugoslav federation to fail to function when it comes to the freedom, lives and safety of the people.

The Presidency of Serbia considers that the Constitution and laws must be respected in Yugoslavia, as well as the orientation that a rule-of-law state functions in the interest of all citizens. It is therefore essential that it prevent activities which undermine the existence of the Yugoslav state and violates the SFRY Constitution.

If the SFRY Presidency is unable to exercise its constitutional powers for whatever reason, it is duty-bound to inform the Yugoslav public, which must be perfectly aware of the preparedness and ability of federal organs to carry out their constitutional functions.

Serbia will work resolutely toward a fair democratic resolution of Yugoslav problems and the functioning of a rule-of-law state, to which Serbia and everyone else in Yugoslavia who wishes Yugoslavia and its citizens well are committed. The Presidency of Serbia therefore demands that the SFRY Presidency meet immediately and take urgent measures so that the federal organs can fulfill their constitutional obligations. At the same time the Serbian Presidency has sent to delegates of the Federal Chamber from Serbia a proposal that, as a result of the crude violation of the Yugoslav Constitution, they request the urgent convening of a session of the Federal Chamber of the Yugoslav Assembly, this statement says.

Serbian Democratic Party Calls For Serbian Unity

LD3009224290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1921 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Knin, 30 Sep (TANJUG)—Unity is necessary, now more than ever before, now that the sections of the Serbian people in the Yugoslav federal unit of Croatia are faced with the fascist-inspired forms of terror which threaten its survival, the Serbian Democratic Party

[Srpska Demokratska Stranka—SDS] Executive Committee stresses in a statement.

It is said that the latest events, reminiscent of the times the Serbian people thought irrevocably past, have justifiably caused a wave of revolt, protest, and condemnation especially among the Serbian nation in the Republic of Serbia.

In our view, the responsibility that lies with the Serbian people in the Republic of Serbia for the Serbian people in Croatia is of historic importance at the present juncture. The Serbian nation is one and indivisible and at the moment one of its parts is fighting for its survival confronted by attempts to relapse into genocide, the Knin-based SDS says in the statement.

Slovene Assembly Adopts Constitutional Changes

LD2809225490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2017 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 28 Sep (TANJUG)—The parliament of the Yugoslav Republic of Slovenia today adopted a law on the implementation of amendments to its Constitution which places territorial defence of its territory, although still part of the united Armed Forces of Yugoslavia, under the jurisdiction of republican organs.

Under the new law, Slovenian parliament will in [words indistinct] also the serving of military service and other questions relating to it which were so far regulated by federal organs.

At the proposal of the Liberal Party, the law also includes the possibility that compulsory military service be served in the civilian services. No such possibility exist in the federal regulations determining this subject.

An Army representative who took part in the parliamentary debate was opposed to this decision, assessing it as a "direct threat to the territorial integrity of Yugoslavia."

The other constitutional law determining which federal laws will not be implemented in Slovenia in the future, did not get the necessary two-thirds majority vote of the deputies. It had been proposed that those federal laws which hinder the progress of the social and economic system of Slovenia be disregarded, but agreement was not reached on which laws this definition covers.

As the republican secretary for legislature Lojze Janko explained today, the amendments to the republican constitution which were adopted yesterday are only one of the steps towards realizing the main Slovenia goal—the adoption of a new republican constitution which will determine Slovenia as a sovereign state within a confederate Yugoslavia.

In the stands adopted at the close of the session, parliament expressed Slovenia's readiness to take part in peaceful and democratic negotiations on the organization of future inter-ethnic relations in Yugoslavia. As a starting point for the negotiations, the Slovenians propose a recognition of the existing borders between the republics, the right to a constitutional system suited to each of the republics and the readiness to settle relations through understanding and with respect for the principles and regulations of international law.

Slovene Presidency Issues Defense Decrees

LD2809174590 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1650 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 28 Sep (TANJUG)—The Presidency of the Republic of Slovenia at today's session, on the basis of the amendments to the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia, relieved Lieutenant Colonel General Ivan Hocevar, territorial defense commander of Slovenia, and Major General Drago Ozbolt, commander of the Republican Headquarters for the Territorial Defense Forces, of their duties.

The Presidency appointed reserve Major Janez Slapar, who has been commander of the territorial defense forces in Gorenjska, as acting commander of the republican headquarters for Territorial Defense Forces. The Presidency, on the basis of the constitutional law for the implementation of two amendments to the republican Constitution in the field of national defence, has approved a decree on the transfer of individual functions of command in the territorial defense of the Republic of Slovenia to the Republican secretary for national defense.

The Presidency's assessment says this transfer of functions and the inclusion of the republican headquarters for the Territorial Defense Forces into the republican Secretariat for National Defense will ensure that the preparation and command of territorial defense takes place normally.

Defense Secretariat Comments

LD2909163590 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1530 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Belgrade, 29 Sep (TANJUG)—At its session on 27 and 28 September, the Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia adopted and promulgated constitutional amendments and a constitutional law which severely undermine the SFRY's defense system, as endorsed by the SFRY Constitution and federal legislation. They destroy the unity of the Armed Forces and the unified system of command and subordination, and suspend the constitutional competence of the SFRY Presidency as the collective supreme commander of the Armed Forces and the legal competence of other federal organs. This is stated today in a statement by the Federal Secretariat for National Defense.

By these acts, the statement adds, one in fact embarks on the formation of a republican armed force on the SFRY's territory, something that directly collides with the SFRY's constitutionally endorsed system.

Departing from its constitutional duties and authorities, as well as from the demands of the SFRY Assembly, the SFRY Presidency, and the Federal Executive Council [FEC] that all state organs are duty bound to consistently apply the SFRY Constitution and federal legislation, the Federal Secretariat for National Defense will not allow the formation of any armed force on any Yugoslav territory beyond those envisaged by the SFRY Constitution and federal legislation. The formation of any kind of parallel organs of command and subordination within the Armed Forces will not be tolerated either, nor arbitrariness in carrying out national service.

The headquarters, units, and institutions of territorial defense will carry out their duties, tasks, and orders within the unified system of command and subordination endorsed by the SFRY Presidency. The Yugoslav People's Army will continue to carry out all its constitutional obligations on the entire territory of the SFRY. The Federal Secretariat for National Defense will immediately advise the SFRY Presidency and the FEC to take urgent measures under their competence, keeping in mind that these acts of the Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia undermine not only the system of all- people's defense but also the SFRY's entire constitutional system. This was noted at the end of the statement of the Federal Secretariat for National Defense.

Defense Secretary Rejects Statement

LD3009140690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0952 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 30 Sep (TANJUG)—The promulgation of the amendments and constitutional law on defense does indeed enforce the commanding aspect of territorial defense and the reasons why this was done are known. In military parlance, since Friday the Slovenian Presidency has been the supreme commander of its territorial defense, but only in peacetime and in a state of emergency and in the event of internal conflicts in Yugoslavia. In the event of an external attack the SFRY Presidency's authority over Slovenia's Territorial Defense Forces remains intact.

With these words Janez Jansa, republican secretary for national defense, replied late last night on the third Slovene Television newscast to the Federal Secretariat for National Defense statement on the Republic of Slovenia Assembly's decisions.

In Jansa's words, the top brass' fears of disunity in the armed forces are out of place, unless, of course, they intend to use military power against Slovenia. It is only in light of this intention that our amendments are irritating. The solutions we adopted on national service, on overseeing national service, also envisage that we will train only those draftees whom the Yugoslav Peoples' Army will not secure. They will do their national service in Slovenia—something that is feasible in terms of expertise and technical facilities. Consequently, it is up to them what number will serve at home [in Slovenia], or else, if there will be a need for anyone to serve in this way at all, Jansa said.

Jansa then pointed out that the valid legal system in Yugoslavia does not enable the Federal Constitutional Court to annul a republican constitution or a constitutional law. Likewise, federal organs cannot legally declare a state of emergency in Slovenia because this requires the republican Assembly's approval. If any measure collides with the republican Assembly's legal decisions the republic's organs will naturally prevent it from being implemented. If this course of events takes place, they will protect Slovenia, Jansa said. We have been ready for some time to face up even to such an extreme case, an impossible one realistically speaking because the true hotbeds of crisis are situated in Yugoslavia's other regions, he added.

Jansa also noted that there is not a single mention in the Federal Secretariat for National Defense statement of the adoption of the Serbian Constitution whereby the President of Serbia is not only the supreme commander of its territorial defense in peacetime but of the armed forces of the Serbian state, too, even in wartime. This provision in the Serbian Constitution is, Jansa maintains, much more radical than the Slovenia amendments and Serbia can put them to use whenever it wants. In this light, he stresses, it is impossible for the time being to consider all the consequences of such an event.

Likewise, the Federal Secretariat for National Defense is not worried about the armed uprising of the Serbs in Croatia, but it is nonetheless irritated with solving problems on Slovenia's territorial defense in a legal manner without rallies—the problems created by and large by precisely the Serbian generals and Serbian policies in the Yugoslav Presidency, Jansa said.

He then concluded that all this only gives asserts Slovenia's realization that its assembly did the right thing when it adopted the most necessary constitutional amendments, thus seizing the very last chance. I believe that we will not give them up regardless of any pressures, for, we are no longer willing to settle someone else's accounts with our blood, Jansa pointed out in his statement to Slovene Television.

Albanians Continue Criticism of Serb Constitution

LD2809143390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1308 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Pristina, 28 Sep (TANJUG)—A member of the Presidium of the Democratic Alliance, Fehmi Agani, has stated at a news conference today that "the new Serbian Constitution has been imposed upon Albanians in Kosovo"; hence, they will look upon it "as a foreign constitution." By ignoring the political will of Albanians manifested through the boycott of the referendum on the new Serbian Constitution and by overlooking the state of emergency in Kosovo, the document, according to Agani, refutes the legality of the Serbian Constitution.

With regard to yesterday's statement of the SFRY Presidency on options for a new order in Yugoslavia, which, Agani underscored, stipulates that nations make relevant decisions on this, Agani warned that "discriminating against the Albanian nation and inducing feelings of national inferiority among Albanians is harmful."

Fehmi Agani welcomed stands adopted by the Slovene and Croat Assemblies that they will not join the process of the adoption of the amendments to the SFRY Constitution unless the Kosovo Assembly takes part in it.

Secretary of the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo, Jusuf Budzovi, read out the reply of the party's Presidium following the request of the Federal Secretary for Justice and Administration, Dr. Vlado Kambovski, that "the stands of the chairman which were presented at the press conference on 14 September should be clarified." This is a reference to the statement supporting the illegal "constitution of the Republic of Kosovo." The reply states: "Since, at the said press conference, Dr. Ibrahim Rugova proposed stands on a number of problems, and your communication does not precisely specify the stand which is contentious and outside our program orientations on the basis of which we are registered with your secretariat, we are not in a position on this occasion to satisfy your request."

Budzovi informed the journalists that Ibrahim Rugova is on a visit to the United States as a guest of the U.S. Congress and Senator Robert Dole.

Agami Says Document Imposed

LD2809120190 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1100 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] The Serbian Constitution is being adopted without Albanians. Contrary to their political will, it was imposed upon them. Hence, Albanians will look upon it as a foreign body, i.e., as a constitution imposed from above. This has been stressed at today's news conference in Pristina by Dr. Fehmi Agami, a member of the Kosovo Democratic Alliance [Demokratski Savez Kosova] Presidium.

No Serious Incidents at Rival Kosovo Serb Rallies

AU2909161290 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Milivoje Mihajlovic and Milos Rajkovic report from Kosovo Polje—live]

[Text] More than 15,000 Serbs and Montenegrins from Kosovo gathered in Kosovo Polje around noon today, at two rallies previously called for the same time. Following the announcement of a rally of the Serbian Renewal Movement, sympathizers of the Socialist Party of Serbia, led by the Peony Association leadership, announced a counterrally at the same place at the same time.

In the courtyard of the Asa Marovic Elementary School, adherents of the two parties started gathering at the same time today, one side shouting the name of Slobodan Milosevic and the other of Vuk Draskovic. They carried banners inscribed: We do not want any conflict within the Serbian people; We are fed up with those that divide us; as well as, Down with red rulers.

Long before the rally began, verbal provocations were being exchanged, but there were no serious incidents thanks, above all, to the presence of strong militia forces. However, shortly after 1200 [1000 GMT], when Vuk Draskovic, Milan Komnenic, and Kosta Bulatovic, leaders of the Serbian Renewal Movement, arrived, passions boiled over. Only a strong militia cordon succeeded in preventing the adherents of the Socialist Party of Serbia from rushing the rostrum.

From time to time, various small objects were thrown at the rostrum, which contained as many as 50 bodyguards for Draskovic, and this only increased tension. Bogdan Kecman, president of the Peony Association, incited particular hatred against Draskovic.

The first speaker was Vuk Draskovic. At the beginning he unsuccessfully tried to calm down the passions. Draskovic said that political parties do not exist to make Serbs hate each other and quarrel. After Draskovic, Milan Komnenic recited his poem of Kosovo Serbs.

Considering that the danger existed that a physical clash could develop between those present, Momcilo Trajkovic, vice president of the republican government of Serbia, mounted the rostrum and called for reason, stressing that the Serbs must be united because they face the decisive battle for the implementation of the republican Constitution adopted yesterday. All those present welcomed Trajkovic's words. Draskovic and his entourage then left the meeting at which time the crowd began to disperse slowly.

It is certain that the members of each party will claim they were more numerous. It is the impression of your reporters, however, that the adherents of the Socialist Party of Serbia were more numerous as well as more aggressive. Undoubtedly the following words may express the painful impression after the Kosovo Polje rally: There was no victor in this clash, which fortunately was only verbal. Or: If—again fortunately—the fears of Kosovo Serbs about interethnic clashes with the Albanians after the adoption of the Constitution did not materialize, it is clear that the party struggle sullies the oft demonstrated unity of the Kosovo Serbs very much indeed.

Jovic Cuts Visit Short; 'Deteriorating' Situation

LD3009134190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1347 GMT 30 Sep 90

[Text] Belgrade, 30 Sep (TANJUG)—The Press and Information Bureau of the SFRY Presidency announced today that President Borisav Jovic is cutting short his visit to New York, where he is taking part in the meetings of the UN General Assembly. This is because of the deteriorating political and security situation in the country, provoked by the latest decisions of certain republican leaderships which severely breach the SFRY Constitution and federal legislation.

Will Convene Presidency Session

LD0110142290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1355 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 1 Oct (TANJUG)—Dr. Borisav Jovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, has convened a session of the SFRY Presidency to discuss the current political-security situation in the country.

The session will be held on 2 October immediately upon Dr. Jovic's return from New York where he took part in the work of the UN General Assembly.

Army 'Will Not Allow' Breakup of Nation

LD2809143690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1328 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] Cacak, 28 Sep (TANJUG)—At a gathering of National Liberation War veterans from Cacak, Gornji Milanovac, and Lucan, held today in the Culture Center in Cacak, Colonel-General Stevan Mirkovic [former chief of the General Staff] stated that the Army leadership and the Yugoslav People's Army will not allow Yugoslavia to be broken up.

As confirmation of his claim, Mirkovic cited talks attended by Veljko Kadijevic, federal secretary for national defense, and his aides. The talks, in which Mirkovic also participated, were held last Saturday. Col.-Gen. Mirkovic stated that the Army is not trying to threaten anyone with this stand, but that it reflects the Army's thinking.

At the gathering in Cacak, Generals Milojica Pantelic and Ljubivoje Pajovic talked about the current political situation in Serbia and Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavs Party Criticizes Bush-Tudjman Meeting

LD2709160290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1338 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Belgrade, 27 Sep (TANJUG)—A statement by the U.S. Government to the effect that they support the unity and territorial integrity of Yugoslavia contradicts the decision by U.S. President George Bush to receive Frajo Tudjman, president of Croatia, who has been working for Croatia's secession from Yugoslavia and destroying Yugoslavia's integrity. This is said in a statement issued by the main committee for Serbia of the Party of Yugoslavs.

The U.S. President should know that he received, albeit for courtesy talks, a politician who sees the policy of the Republic of Croatia as a historical continuation of the Independent State of Croatia—a creation of the fascist bloc in World War II—which committed appalling genocide against Yugoslav patriots of Serbian, Jewish, Romanian, and other nationalities. The leadership of that republic has now gone so far as to use police repression in order to prevent the families and friends laying flowers and paying tribute to the victims of Jasenovac concentration camp where 750,000 people perished.

If the U.S. President wants to be competently informed about the situation in Yugoslavia and if he sincerely supports Yugoslavia's territorial integrity—and we tend to believe that he does—then we expect him to receive Dr. Borisav Jovic, president of the Presidency of Yugoslavia, who is at the moment in the United States, the statement says.

Loncar, Egyptian, Algerian Ministers Meet at UN

LD2809014190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2118 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Excerpt] United Nations, 27 Sep (TANJUG)—At their meeting at the United Nations palace in New York today, foreign ministers Ghazali of Algeria, Galli of Egypt [name as received] and Loncar of Yugoslavia upheld an initiative launched by Italy and Spain for convening a conference on security and cooperation in the Mediterranean.

A statement released from the meeting says that the foreign ministers of the three non-aligned countries of the Mediterranean see the "initiative as coinciding with the objectives of regional organization within the Non-aligned Movement and as falling within the framework of the efforts for ensuring security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region and of the permanent action of the non-aligned towards attaining the aims of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE)". [passage omitted]

Jovic Departs for UN Session in New York

LD2709112190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1032 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] Belgrade, 27 Sep (TANJUG)—Yugoslav State Presidency President Borisav Jovic today left for New York to attend the regular session of the U.N. General Assembly and the world summit for children.

Jovic will address the U.N. General Assembly on Friday [28 September] and the world summit for children on Sunday.

During his five-day stay in New York, Jovic will meet with several heads of state and government, one of the most important will be his meeting with U.S. President George Bush.

To Address General Assembly

LD2809081790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0727 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Text] New York, 28 Sep (TANJUG)—Yugoslav State Presidency President Dr. Borisav Jovic last night arrived in New York, where he will address the UN General Assembly this afternoon as a guest in the general debate of the 45th regular meeting of the UN body.

Yugoslav President Dr. Borisav Jovic will also speak as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement.

During his visit, which is planned to last until October 1, President Jovic will have several meetings with world statesmen, attend and speak at the first world summit for children, which will be held at the United Nations in the last two days of September, while a meeting between him and UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar has been announced.

Helsinki Committee Members Protest to Presidency

AU2709153890 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 21 Sep 90 p 5

[Unattributed report: "Not Expelled Up To Now]

[Text] The Yugoslav Helsinki Committee has sent a letter to the SFRY Presidency and the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia concerning the expulsion of the members of the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights from Yugoslavia by the Serbian organs of authority.

The letter states, among other things, that the International Helsinki Federation sent Mrs. Christine von Kohl and Dr. Barent Koen [spelling as published] to Kosovo as observers, at the request of several countries' Helsinki Committees in order to assess human rights in this province. They were also joined by a representative of the Caritas humanitarian organization from Vienna who brought along medicines and medical supplies for hospitals in Kosovo. On 5 September they were taken to the Prizren Communal Secretariat for Internal Affairs where they were kept for six hours; while they were there they were interrogated in an unlawful way (in addition to being insulted and threatened). Then a stamp was put in the space in the passport provided for visas requiring them to leave Yugoslavia within 24 hours and banning them from returning until 5 September 1993. They were confined to a hotel in Pristina which they were banned from leaving without the militia's permission until the afternoon of 6 September 1990. They were accompanied by a Mr. Gasi, an interpreter of the Albanian language and an Austrian citizen, who was subjected to the same measures. The militia confiscated all their medical equipment and medicines, as well as the report about Kosovo written for the International Helsinki Federation.

On the same day, the Executive Council of the Socialist Republic of Serbia issued a statement denying the detention and expulsion of the members of the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights, and proclaiming the report of the Associated Press as "an element in the psychological war against Serbia and Yugoslavia."

On 8 September, the Executive Council issued a new statement admitting the detention of the "aforementioned members of the International Helsinki Federation," but proclaiming the medicines and the aforementioned report, which went through a regular customs check, as "propaganda material dangerous for interethnic relations in Kosovo."

The detention, the interrogation that went for several hours, and above all the expulsion of the members of the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights, is a crude violation of the Helsinki Charter and accompanying documents.

The letter also states that such behavior adversely affects Yugoslavia's international reputation, questions its proclaimed orientation toward Europe, and hampers all further communications with the democratic world. It also highlights the fact that a member of the International Helsinki Federation or other countries' Helsinki Committees has never been expelled from a European country.

The letter from the Yugoslav Helsinki Committee was signed by Stojan Cerovic and Tanja Petovar.